

John Brown

NO KKK- NO Fascist USA!

NEWSPAPER OF THE JOHN BROWN ANTI-KLAN COMMITTEE

220 9th St. No. 443, San Francisco, CA 94103

WINTER, 1987

\$1.00

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Black Liberation fighter and prisoner of war Kuwasi Balagoon died in Auburn Prison, New York, December 13, 1986

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South Africa's version of the KKK has become the popular spokesman of racist blue-collar whites by disrupting rallies and meetings of Botha's Nationalist Party

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RACIST MURDER BLACK RESISTANCE



Photo Credit: The Guardian

In outraged response to the racist murder of Michael Griffith, thousands of demonstrators marched angrily through the streets of Howard Beach, Queens, a predominantly working class Italian neighborhood in New York City, on December 27. Griffith, a 23-year-old Black construction worker, was brutally beaten by a gang of white youths armed with clubs and baseball bats.

He was subsequently killed when he was chased onto a freeway where he was struck down by an oncoming automobile. One of the most vicious racial attacks in recent years, the death of Michael Griffith has inflamed the Black community and exposed another racist enclave in the middle of New York City.

As the primarily Black demonstration gathered near the freeway at the spot where Griffith was killed, four to five hun-

dered white youths marched on a nearby overpass, screaming "animals — go home!" and other racist insults. When the determined marchers indicated willingness to respond in kind, the police stepped in to protect the racists.

Chanting "Howard Beach, have you heard, this is not Johannesburg!" the demonstration proceeded to the assailants' high school, to the police precinct, and to the pizza parlor where the attack had begun. Along the entire course of the march, white onlookers registered their open hatred of Black people. One angry white was heard to say, "You better believe this is Johannesburg!"

On December 20th, Griffith, along with his step-father, Cedric Sandiford, and two friends, Timothy Grimes and Curtis Sylvester, were driving home when their car broke down in Howard Beach. Sylvester stayed with the car and the three others set out in search of a phone to call for help. They walked almost three miles without finding a phone, eventually winding up at a pizzeria where they stopped to rest. While they were there, someone called the police claiming that there were "three suspicious men" i.e. three Black men in the pizza parlor. The police arrived quickly, talked to the employees, but finding nothing but three men quietly eating, departed.

Did the police see a group of white men armed with bats and clubs outside? They say no. But when Griffith, Grimes and Sandiford left the restaurant moments after the police, they were suddenly and without the slightest provocation attacked and beaten by 9-12 assailants. Days later, one of the attackers confessed to police that he had said to his friends: "There's some n-----s in the pizza parlor. Let's go kill them."

Timothy Grimes managed to escape, but Griffiths and Sandiford were chased almost ten blocks to a dead end street near the Shore Parkway where they were

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Marines Train KKK Army

The extensive involvement of active duty U.S. military personnel in Klan paramilitary training was exposed during the contempt of court trial of North Carolina Klansman/neo-Nazi Glenn Miller and his second in command Stephen Miller (no relation). Both Millers were convicted of

operating a paramilitary organization. Over the last few years former Green Beret Glenn Miller has become a rising star in the white supremacist movement. As the trial showed, his reputation grew not only from well-attended public rallies but from the military organization Miller was covertly building.

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TESTIMONY FROM THE TRIAL

Robert Norman Jones, a witness for the prosecution, provided chilling testimony about the White Patriot Party's acquisition of military weapons and equipment, and the WPP's use of active-duty U.S. military personnel to train its members in the art of warfare. Jones is a former marine, who is now serving a 3-year prison term for the attempted purchase of explosives and other stolen military arms, and the possession of stolen government property.

Jones told the court he was paid \$50,000 to supply WPP members with arms and munitions stolen from Fort Bragg and other military installations. Weapons he supplied included dynamite, hand grenades, hundreds of pounds of plastic explosives, AR-15 rifles, MAC machine pistols, gas masks, night scopes for rifles, and LAW rockets (light-weight anti-tank weapons, able to pierce up to eleven inches of armor). Jones testified that he and a small team of Ft. Bragg personnel had trained six ten-man teams in a ten month period. This included night trainings and the compiling of a video showing use of the LAW rockets. He was paid \$100 a day for the training sessions.

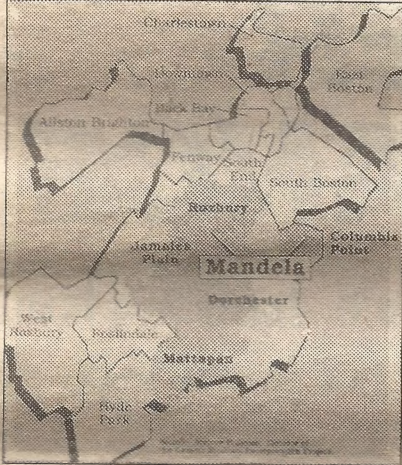
Former WPP member James E. Holder, once a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, testified that active-duty Marines from Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, took part in WPP military training as early as 1982 and 1983. The trainings he conducted included field work in hand to hand combat, ambushes, escape-and-evasion, and seek-out-and-destroy ("you shoot and destroy anything in sight").

The cache of military weapons, ammunition and explosives illegally acquired by the WPP has not been located.

BRIEFS • BRIEFS • BRIEFS • BRIEFS • BRIEFS

LAND CONTROL
IN MANDELA, MASS.

Boston, Ma. One of the most controversial issues in the elections last November was a movement that would incorporate the Black community of Boston as a separate city. The proposed new city, which encompasses one third of the land area of Boston, has been unofficially named "Mandela" to honor South African/Azanian leader Nelson Mandela.



City officials and the media smiled gently at the idea — until 5000 signatures needed to make the secession issue a non-binding referendum question on the ballot were presented early in October.

The mayor of Boston, Ray Flynn, who actively took part in the racist movement against busing there in the 70s, took the lead in calling the referendum "racist" and "divisive," as well as financially bankrupt. Says Andrew Jones, a leader of GRIP (Greater Roxbury Incorporation Project), which started the movement, "Boston created Mandela already by its discriminatory housing policy, driving Blacks into the poorest area. Now that we want to incorporate ourselves, they call us racists."

Communities that would make up Mandela are slated for gentrification — as rapidly as possible. Plans have already been made to develop Roxbury, which is the heart of the Black community and development would displace at least 20% of the current population, and would significantly raise property prices, forcing out even more residents. One of the main slogans of the pro-Mandela movement is "Yes, We Stay — No, We Go!"

The referendum was non-binding and over 65% of those who voted on it are white. All voters of all precincts that would have ceded land to Mandela were allowed to vote on the question. The referendum was defeated by about 34,000 to 13,000, but success in achieving an independent Mandela, or community control and self-determination anywhere, does not depend on one referendum or election.

KLAN ATTACKS
MARCHERS IN GEORGIA

Cumming, Ga. — On Saturday, January 18, a peaceful march through an all-white county to mark the birthday of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King was halted by hundreds of KKK members and supporters throwing rocks, bottles and debris.

The civil rights march was stopped only a mile into its planned route through Forsyth County, which has no Black people among its population of 38,500, according to county officials.

A crowd of about 1,000 white people gathered at the intersection of two country roads near Cumming to protest the march. They cheered a speech by J.B. Stoner, an avowed white supremacist who was recently released from prison after serving a third of a 10-year sentence for the 1958 bombing of a Black church in Birmingham, Ala. "N---rs bring crime and AIDS," Stoner told the jeering crowd,

"and we don't need crime or AIDS in Forsyth County."

When the marchers, most of them Black, arrived on a bus from Atlanta, several hundred of the racists began chanting, "Go home n---rs," and some pelted the marchers with stones, bottles and mud. The 75 police that had been assigned to the march were unable to contain the racist mob and forced the demonstrators back on to their bus. The civil rights demonstrators briefly resumed their march several miles away before leaving the county.

After the march, the whites reassembled on the steps of the county courthouse in Forsyth to hear more speeches from Stoner and Klan members. Reporters estimated the crowd at between 400 and 500.

I've never seen such hatred. There were youngsters 10 and 12 years old screaming their lungs out, 'Kill the n---rs,' said Hosea L. Williams, a member of the Atlanta City Council. "I have been in the civil rights movement 30 years," he continued, "and I'm telling you we've got a South Africa in the back yard of Atlanta, Ga., 38 miles away."

ARTISTS SUPPORT
BLACK LIBERATION

From October 5th - 12th an exhibit called "Artists Support Black Liberation" was held at La Galeria en el Bohio on the Lower East Side in New York City. The event, sponsored by the local chapter of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, was a benefit for the Malcolm X Centers for Black Survival being built by the New Afrikan People's Organization.

Over 90 artists contributed to the exhibit. Culminating with an auction, the show raised thousands of dollars and reached hundreds of people. The artwork included a wide range of both abstract and figurative art, much of which expressed explicit anti-racist or anti-imperialist messages.

The week also included a political-cultural event with performance poetry by Miss Fit, music by Robbie McCauley and Ed Montgomery, and presentations by Cliff Joseph and Juan Sanchez, two visual artists who talked about the role of art and artists in political struggle. The New Afrikan People's Organization also spoke, enabling people to hear directly from them about the purpose and goals of the Centers for Black Survival in combatting genocidal conditions that Black people face.

Many people felt that the show made a very strong statement and provided a much needed vehicle for artists to express support for the Black Liberation struggle, and said they hope to see similar efforts in the future.

CLEVELAND: BLACK
FAMILIES ATTACKED

from readers in Cleveland

Three racially motivated incidents of

terror in Cleveland, Ohio, have increased the tension already building during the last 18 months.

Mabel Gamp, a 66-year-old Black woman, was killed when her home, in the predominantly white Broadway area on the east side of Cleveland, was fire-bombed. Two youths were arrested and later acquitted. Nobody has ever been convicted for this death.

Shortly after that event, a cross was burned on the front lawn of a Black family that had moved into the Collinwood area. Two juveniles were arrested and convicted for this act. Authorities reported this as simply a "youthful prank."

The only Black family on West 88th Street, Marlene Armstrong and her children had moved there in February, 1986, as part of a scattered site public housing program mandated by the Federal government in the 1970s. Seven of the nineteen racial incidents reported in 1986 involved scattered-site tenants. On April 14, "KKK" was spray painted on the Armstrong home. Harrassment continued and the Armstrongs did not feel safe on West 88th Street.

Police were called for protection. When they failed to respond, the assault continued until a friend, Michael Spraggins, who was visiting the Armstrongs, sprayed the provocateurs with shot gun pellets.

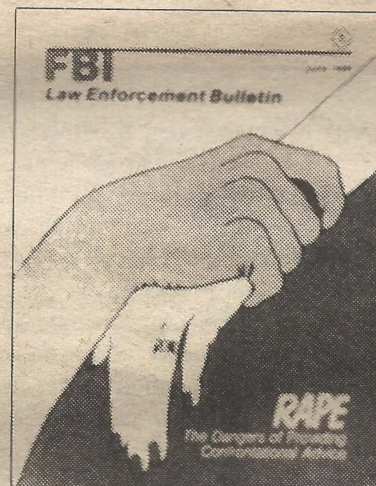
Spraggins was charged for his role in the incident. A huge outcry of protest came to his support. Elected officials came to his aid only after the larger community became enraged about the slow and totally inadequate response of the police.

As a result of the huge protest movement that developed, charges against Spraggins were dropped, a public apology was made to Marlene Armstrong and the Mayor was seriously criticized for his lack of leadership against racism in the city.

FBI'S RACIST BULLETIN

The FBI is scurrying to counter charges of racism generated by the cover of the June issue of its Law Enforcement Bulletin. Not only is the FBI writing articles on why women should not confront potential rapists, but to illustrate the article the magazine's cover depicted a Black man's hand gripping a white woman's wrist.

According to FBI spokespeople the issue was withdrawn after only a "handful" were distributed, and a new cover was designed showing two white hands. "As soon as I saw it, I knew it could be considered racially insulting," said FBI assistant Director William Baker. "Our safety net caught it, but we caught it late." In the future, said Baker, covers will be approved at a higher level.

MARION MONICA SPARG:
SOLDIER IN ANC ARMY

reprinted from The Guardian

Marion Mondica Sparg, a 28-year-old white South African and former journalist was sentenced to 25 years in prison for treason and arson in Johannesburg's provincial Supreme Court in November 1986.

Sparg, a soldier of Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the military branch of the African National Congress (ANC), admitted to bombing three police stations. Her targets included the security police headquarters in Johannesburg, previously thought to be impregnable.

Sparg said her actions were based on "patriotism not treason," and that she could not condone the government's racist policies. "We are in a situation of war with the apartheid regime," she said.

Sparg joined the armed struggle in December 1982 after the South African army killed 43 refugees during a raid into Lesotho.

Sparg is the second white woman to be sentenced to prison this year. In May, Helen Pastoors, a Belgian citizen, was given a 10-year sentence for taking part in ANC activities. A white man, Stephen Marais, was sentenced in November to 10 years for terrorism. He was with Sparg when she picked up explosives in Lesotho for the bombings.

IRS ROUNDS UP POSSE

In October 1976, William Gale, leader of the Posse Comitatus, and six associates, were arrested for making death threats to IRS agents and a state court judge in Nevada.

Gale, a retired army colonel who served on Gen. MacArthur's staff, has a long history in the racist movement. Considered one of the founders of the Christian Identity Movement, his specialty is guerilla warfare training. Gale is presently based in rural Mariposa County, California.

The charges are based on letters called "constructive notices," received by Nevada IRS agents over the past two years from a Posse off-shoot called the Committee of States. The "notices" threatened that the agents would receive a "maximum lect taxes from various Posse members. The other six arrested were Angelo Stefanelli, Michael McCray, Gary Dolfen and Susan Kieffer of Nevada; Richard Van Hazel of Arizona; and Fortunato Parrino of Mariposa, Ca.

IN MEMORIAM

In late December, 1986, Skip Robinson, a leader of the United League of Mississippi, died in an automobile accident.

As part of the United League, Skip Robinson dedicated his life to fighting for Black people's human rights and against the organized racist terror of the Ku Klux Klan and the state of Mississippi.

The United League, a mass Black grassroots organization works in the small towns of Mississippi to win political and economic power for Black people. It has organized economic boycotts and opposed Black land loss.

The United League organized armed self-defense units in the face of KKK attacks. They served as an example of militant opposition to white supremacist violence. When they learned that KKK applications were being distributed at the local police station, they coined the now famous slogan: "Blue by Day, White by Night."

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee joins the Black Liberation Movement in mourning the death of this committed activist.

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Bill Wahpepah, Director of the International Indian Treaty Council and a leader of the American Indian Movement (AIM), died January 2, 1987 in Oakland, CA. He was 49 years old.

Bill devoted his life to struggling for the dignity and liberation of Native American people. Bill founded the Oakland AIM for Freedom Survival School. He traveled widely and brought the struggle for liberation of indigenous people of the western hemisphere to world attention.

Fighting the Klan in Illinois

Chicago: Stamping Out Racist Graffiti

In the midst of an onslaught of racist violence and KKK rallies (see chronology this page), Chicago activists are mobilizing a city-wide response to the Klan and Nazis. A winter and spring of educational work including forums and canvassing climaxed this summer with two Stamp Out Racist Graffiti actions involving hundreds of people.

Stamp Out Racist Graffiti actions

neighborhood people to show their opposition to the KKK and all it stands for. This summer's actions were organized by a coalition of individuals and organizations, including the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee.

On June 21, 1986, the coalition took its campaign into the streets of the Chicago community of Lakeview, a racially mixed area that has recently seen a stepped up

that was printed in a local newspaper. Organizers scheduled the action a week before the Klan's "Krosstown Klassic," a weekend with two KKK rallies planned. The coalition's goal was to show public opposition to the Klan's organizing. Despite written and telephone threats to the organizers by the Klan, more than 150 people came out for the spirited action. Eight members of a neo-Nazi group also showed up in full military uniform. As they goose-stepped down one side of the street, marchers and passersby jeered at them. Some neighborhood people threw trash while others chased after them until they left the area. Chicago police lined the streets, ignoring the Nazis while they harassed the demonstration, arresting one marcher for spray-painting "No KKK" on a wall.

The response of people in the Lakeview community to the Stamp Out Graffiti action was enormously positive. Many people came out of their houses and joined the protest. The demonstrators held a meeting in a local church right after the action where they evaluated the action and affirmed the need for further anti-Klan organizing.

The next weekend, on June 28th, over 1000 white residents of the Marquette Park neighborhood attended a Klan rally in the park. During this rally, hundreds of white people attacked Black demonstrators who were attempting to enter the park and protest the Klan. On June 29th the Klan and Nazis held their second annual anti-gay rally in Lincoln Park, scheduling it to take place the same time as the Gay Freedom Day parade. Despite the violence of the previous day almost two hundred people came out to the park to oppose the Klan and affirm their support for lesbian



and gay liberation. The Gay Freedom Day anti-Klan rally was a joint effort of DAGMARR (Dykes and Gay Men Against Racism and the Right-wing) and the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee.

The September Stamp Out Graffiti Day took place in Uptown, a very poor multi-racial Northside community. A leader of the Chicago Klan, Jackie Quinn, lives in Uptown and both the KKK and Nazis have been actively organizing there over the last few years. They have won the loyalty of two local white youth gangs, the Gaylords and the Rebels. As Klan membership has grown, so have incidents of racist violence in the area. Within the last year a Black man was beaten to death by a man known as a gang member and a Klan supporter.

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Racists attending Klan rally in Marquette Park, June 28, 1986.

involve demonstrators marching through a neighborhood with buckets of paint and brushes, covering up swastikas and white power messages on the walls. Marchers distribute leaflets along the way to people in the community. The actions give visible proof that anti-racists will not be intimidated by the Klan. They provide a way for

level of racist organizing. In the months prior to the action, the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee conducted an intensive organizing and educational drive in the Lakeview area. This work included door to door canvassing, community meetings, and the collection of over 1,000 signatures for an "Open Letter Against the KKK"

Zion: Black Community Confronts Klan

Sixteen-year-old Fahim Ahmad had recently graduated from junior high school. Science had been his best subject, he enjoyed playing basketball and baseball, and was popular with his classmates. On July 5, 1986, at a carnival in Zion, Illinois, Fahim who was Black was shot dead by 33-year-old Joey Isbell. Isbell who is white was heard yelling "Klan, Klan" as he shot Fahim. According to investigators, Isbell had come to the carnival to "harm somebody Black." Despite this statement and the existence of open KKK organizing in the area, Zion Mayor Everline called the murder of Fahim "an isolated incident."

The death of Fahim enraged the local Black community. At a meeting organized by a local group, Citizens Against the Klan, and held just days after the killing, 100 Black Zion residents criticized the all white City Commission. "We've been trying to tell you something like this would happen!" exclaimed one person. "Let me tell you something," said another, "You can call the death a senseless tragedy, but you commissioners have shown that some people's lives matter, but as far as our lives go, we don't matter." Besides the killing, public schools insensitive to Black students and harassment of Black residents by the Zion police were main issues of concern at the meeting.

Zion is a small town of 18,000 people, only 20% Black. It is on Lake Michigan,

50 miles north of Chicago. The murder of Fahim took place in the context of an open KKK organizing drive in the Zion area. Klan activities in the area include:

October 1985: Klan leafleting at Zion high school.

Fall 1985: Klan leafleting at local shopping centers.

April/May 86: Ten Klan members appear in robes at meetings of the Zion City Commission and are allowed to address the meetings. After the May meeting, several Klan members are arrested for

disorderly conduct after shouting "white power" and harassing Black passersby.

June 22, 1986: 15 white men including Robert Elder, a Klan member, attacked Black people on a Zion beach. Four whites were arrested. These charges were later dropped.

July/August 86: Repeated harassment and attacks by groups of white youth against Black people on a Zion business strip at night.

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Citizens Against the Klan protest Klan violence in Zion.

CHRONOLOGY

1985 Summer-Fall: Marquette Park, two Black families' homes firebombed.

September: Uptown, a Black man was beaten to death by a member of a racist youth gang.

September 26-28: Neo-Nazis and Klansmen picket South African consulate in support of apartheid and attack anti-racist demonstrators in Lincoln Park.

December: Black mother and her two children attacked by two white men while walking through Marquette Park.

1986 January: Lakeview, a gay man beaten by attackers giving Nazi salutes.

February 8: Lakeview, 32 Klan and Aryan Nations members demonstrate outside a forum against right-wing violence.

March 9: Marquette Park, four foot high cross found on steps of Black home.

April 19: 200 Klan, Nazis, and Aryan Nation leaders from around the U.S. meet in Cohoctah, Michigan. Chicago Klan and Nazi leaders report on their plans for a summer offensive.

March 16: Cicero, Black man is severely beaten by six whites shouting racial slurs. Chicago police admit 58% increase in racial incidents over 1985.

April 26: Gage Park, four whites assault a Black man waiting for a bus. White racist fires three shots at Black man getting off a bus.

June 28 & 29: Marquette Park, KKK rallies in Marquette Park. Hundreds of white youth chase Black people out of park and throw rocks and bottles. Lincoln Park, KKK holds anti-gay rally.

July: Marquette Park, Black family's home is firebombed. Three racially motivated assaults on Black people including a mob attack on a Black bicyclist riding home after work.

August: Black ministers attempting to march in Marquette Park are met by racist mob. Another firebombing of a Black home, the fifth in the area in the past year.

September 12: National Aryan Nation leaders meet with 80 Klan and Nazis from the Chicago area. Plans to counter the next week's anti-Klan demo are discussed.

September 20: Uptown, 35 Klan and neo-Nazis set up counter-picket during Stamp Out Racist Graffiti action.

November: American Nazi Party holds two demonstrations. Black family living in white neighborhood severely harassed.

1987 January: Lakeview, a gang of neo-Nazi "skinheads" called Romantic Violence covers the area with white power stickers and vandalizes a leftist bookstore.

Support Watani Tyehimba!

Watani Tyehimba is a founding member of the New Afrikan Peoples Organization (NAPO) and a long-time community activist in the Black community. On August 21, 1986 Tyehimba became a grand jury resister and was imprisoned for refusing to talk to a federal grand jury in Los Angeles investigating the New Afrikan (Black) Independence Movement. At his contempt of court hearing, four members of NAPO were assaulted and arrested by federal marshals.

While Tyehimba refused to talk to the grand jury 50 supporters lined the street in front of the federal courthouse. Tyehimba was then ordered to appear before US Federal Judge James Ideman for a contempt of court hearing.

Judge Ideman, a Republican appointee and political reactionary, harangued Tyehimba and his newly appointed lawyer. He accused Tyehimba of stalling when, in fact, his first court appointed lawyer had quit two days earlier without filing any motions. Then Ideman refused Tyehimba's request for a continuance.

When Tyehimba stated to the judge and his supporters in the courtroom that he had made a self-conscious decision not to be a "snitch" against his people, Judge Ideman told him he had a duty to talk to the grand jury. He accused Tyehimba of deceitfulness and trickery and sentenced him to prison until December, 1987. He also threatened Tyehimba with an additional 18 months in jail if he continues to

refuse to collaborate.

The hearing ended when Tyehimba said he would never collaborate and spontaneous applause broke out in the courtroom. Armed federal marshals wielding clubs and a taser-gun stormed the courtroom and ordered everyone out. As supporters clapped, chanted and tried to file out in an orderly way, marshals pushed and yelled at everyone, including small children. The last four people out of the courtroom, all members of NAPO, were jumped by the marshals, arrested and charged with two felonies, contempt of court and "forcibly impeding a federal officer in the performance of his duty." After a two week trial in December, Safiya Kijakazi-Omari was convicted of both charges and Ntima Omari was convicted of the 2nd charge. Babatu Bektemba and Kamal Hassan were acquitted. Sentencing is scheduled for the end of January.

We are printing the following excerpts from the statement that Tyehimba was not allowed to read in court:

I firmly believe that I have been subpoenaed to appear before this grand jury because I am a New Afrikan political activist. It is an attempt to discredit and criminalize the New Afrikan Independence Movement in general and the New Afrikan Peoples Organization in particular, of which I am a founding member.

The grand jury has historically been used as a tool for subjugating Black peo-



ple, who are the victims of United States oppression. From a tool of the slave catchers to a mechanism of political repression and imprisonment—the grand jury has been used to hinder New Afrikan aspirations for freedom and self-rule. By using the facade of legality, the US has consistently tried to make it appear that wanting freedom, a better life, and the basic rights of human beings is criminal. Of course, this is a lie. However, truth has never been the goal of the US when dealing with New Afrikans. The US government seeks continued domination, intimidation, and exploitation of its Black colony.

I have been involved in our struggle for Black self-determination and human rights consistently for seventeen years. My involvement has been public, and theoretically, my activities are constitution-

ally sanctioned. I have appeared on radio and television, addressed various audiences, from universities, colleges, high schools, churches, social clubs, to grassroots rallies and demonstrations.

Although I am the target of repression in this instance, the questions raised by this circumstance are deeper than my personal situation. This is not simply a question of my personal relationship to the "grand jury process" — but whether or not I (and others who struggle for New Afrikan Independence) will cooperate with an illegitimate force that seeks to crush the New Afrikan Independence Movement and the New Afrikan Peoples Organization.

It was my work and involvement, particularly in the National Task Force for COINTELPRO Litigation and Research and the National Black Human Rights

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Chicago from page 3

As plans for Graffiti Day got underway, some community activists opposed it on the grounds that ignoring the Klan was the best policy for preventing racial conflict. One organizer responded: "Ignoring the Klan won't make them go away. We've tried that here and things are only getting worse. People have been murdered and attacked. Crosses have been burned. We are here to show that we will not concede this area to the racists."

The Klan tried to stop the action by issuing threats to anti-Klan organizers and by calling their own rally for the same time and place. In the face of this intimidation more than 200 anti-Klan demonstrators showed up in the largest anti-fascist showing of the year. A cross-section of Chicago, from community residents and progressive punks to activists in the anti-intervention and sanctuary movements, turned out for a militant march through Uptown. 35 Klansmen, neo-Nazis and members of the

fascist skinhead group Romantic Violence came out to confront the marchers. They carried shields covered with Klan symbols and the Aryan Nations thunderbolt and screamed racial epithets at Black participants in the march. Demonstrators responded by chanting "No Nazis, No KKK, No Fascist USA" and "The human rights problem in the world today is right here in the USA." The police, who arrived in force, lined the center of the street as the march started off. The racists followed it from across the street.

The demonstration grew as community people joined in, eventually ending up in a local church. The Klan contingent also grew, joined by some white teenagers from the community. But despite their threats the fascists never physically attacked the Graffiti Day action, relying instead on shouted insults. At the meeting in the church demonstrators enthusiastically affirmed the action.

Building An Anti-Klan Movement

Klan violence at a 1985 Stamp Out Graffiti Day shaped the coalition's strategies for this summer's Lakeview and Uptown actions. One of the earliest Graffiti Day actions took place on September 28, 1985. The Illinois Knights of the KKK chose that same week to go on a public offensive in Chicago. They demonstrated at a number of progressive events including the weekly anti-apartheid picket at the South African consulate. They showed up at the gathering point of the Graffiti Day action and set up a threatening counter picket. When anti-Klan protestors confronted them, they attacked the demonstration. As the police stood by, protestors defended themselves and forced the Klan to retreat. But three anti-Klan people were taken to the hospital.

This year Graffiti Day participants came better prepared. Security teams lined the periphery of the marches. Many participants wore helmets and carried sticks. An organizer explained, "A successful anti-Klan movement must be able to defend itself. You can't ask people to come out against a violent fascist organization without being prepared." Another added "Our experience has shown us that reliance on the government doesn't work. It's doing nothing to stop Klan organizing. And the police and the courts have a dismal record when it comes to arresting and imprisoning whites who attack Black people."

The Klan and Nazi offensive has continued on into the fall and winter. The American Nazi party held two demonstrations in November. One of them was a pro-apartheid rally at the South African Consulate. A Black family that moved into the mainly white Northwest side experienced harassment so severe that the police were forced to post a 24-hour watch.

And anti-racist activity has continued as well. The John Brown Anti-Klan Com-

mittee (JBAKC) is planning a community educational in January to analyze why and how the Klan is growing in Chicago. In February JBAKC will be showing the movie "Malcolm X" as a benefit for the New Afrikan Peoples Organization's Centers for Black Survival.

JBAKC members report these activities will mobilize people against the racism heating up around Chicago's upcoming mayoral election (April, 1987). Harold Washington (the city's Black mayor) is up for re-election and right-wingers like Alderman Vrdolyak and his political machine have started a movement to dump Washington and elect a white mayor. In Washington's first campaign many overtly racist "vote white" leaflets were distributed in Chicago's white communities. One of the most vicious proved to have been written by members of the Chicago Police Department. Anti-racists anticipate the Klan will be using the election to openly organize for white supremacist attitudes and actions. Spring '87 will be an important time to challenge their offensive.

Chicago shows that community organizing and militant action can succeed in building a strong resistance to the Klan and Nazis. After months of work, of forums and community meetings, of leafleting and talking to people, results are being seen. Growing numbers are realizing the need to fight white supremacy right here at home as well as in South Africa. People are willing to come into the streets, reclaiming them from the fascists and demanding an end to racist terror. And their energy will be needed. Maureen Tucker of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee put it this way, "Our numbers are still relatively small and one of our main jobs is to get more people involved. But we've put the Klan on notice that they can't organize unopposed, and that's a real first step." □



Demonstrators at a Stamp Out Racist Graffiti action.

Photo Credit: JBAKC

LaRouche:

The story behind the headlines

With the defeat of most LaRouche candidates in Illinois and Proposition 64 in California, as well as the October 1986 arrest of 10 of his top aides, many people feel that the sun may have set on Lyndon LaRouche's political ambitions. But let's take a closer look at his history and long-range plans.

Lyndon LaRouche initiated his electoral strategy with a bid for the Presidency in 1976. While many scoffed at his "star wars, colonize-the-moon" style of fascism, in the past 10 years this strategy has built a national political organization and successfully projected the politics of the racist right into the mainstream. This is precisely where the continuing danger of LaRouche lies.

The campaign around Proposition 64 is a good example. Prop 64 called for the



Lyndon LaRouche

quarantine of AIDS and ARC patients, as well as everyone who tests positive for the antibody to the virus. The LaRouche campaign — called "PANIC" — built on widespread fears of this deadly disease, the general public's lack of scientific understanding, and a growing anti-gay atmosphere.

In 1983, when the Texas KKK called for the death penalty for gay people as the solution to the AIDS epidemic, most people viewed this as an idea from the lunatic fringe and would not associate themselves with such an extremist program. But in 1986, Proposition 64 calling for the most extensive quarantine of U.S. citizens since the internment of Japanese people during WWII. The proposition was defeated, but 29% of California voters approved the measure, and the possibility of quarantine has become a legitimate issue for public debate. In addition, despite the ballot-box defeat, LaRouche was able to build a statewide organization which still exists.

A Little History

The establishment media promotes an image of LaRouche as an extremist who first was a "leftist" and only more recently has joined the right-wing. In fact, he has been a fascist for over 20 years. LaRouche and some supporters claimed a "left" identity through their brief membership in some left organizations. But from the time of its founding in the late '60s, LaRouche's first organization, the National Caucus of Labor Committees, devoted its energies to disrupting and attacking progressive organizations. In a November 1986 interview with San Francisco Focus magazine,

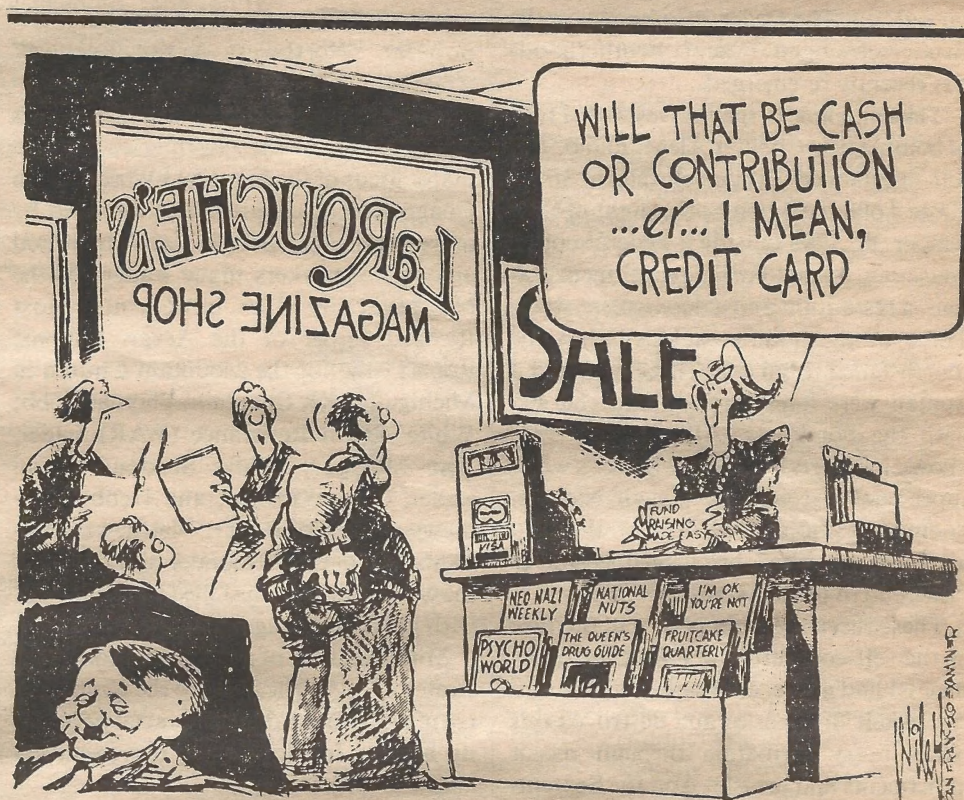
LaRouche stated: "We tried to preempt, co-opt, divert — we ran more kinds of funny operations than we realized we were running at the time." One of these "funny operations" was called Operation Mop-Up in which NCLC members raided meetings of the Communist Party, Socialist Worker's Party and Students for Democratic Society, assaulting people with clubs and chairs. In the mid and late 70s, the NCLC was soliciting funds from the Shah of Iran and the racist government of South Africa. Not the activity of leftists.

LaRouche has shown a particular dedication to attacks on Black and Puerto Rican people. In an NCLC pamphlet written in the early 1970s, LaRouche called Third World people "less than human, . . . bestialized lower forms of animal life." NCLC physically attacked the Black-led community-based Lincoln Detox Acupuncture Center, the Welfare Rights Organization in New York City and striking Black union workers in Detroit. Puerto Rican independence organizations were the focus of political attacks in New York in the mid-70s. NCLC members asserted that they "lead the civil rights movement" while at the same time denouncing grassroots Black organizations and national figures.

Like the rest of the racist right, Lyndon LaRouche is rabidly anti-semitic. His various publications vilify Jewish people and communists. An editorial in New Solidarity, the LaRouche weekly newspaper said: "America must be cleansed for its righteous war by the immediate elimination of the . . . Jewish Lobby."

LaRouche's Racist Network

LaRouche's connections with the government have flourished under the Reagan administration. Bobby Inman, former deputy director of the CIA under Reagan, met with LaRouche at least 6 times while in office. Members of the National Security Council have had numerous meetings with LaRouche and his aides. According to Chip Berlet of the Midwest Research Center, former Reagan Secretary of the Interior James Watt considered hiring



LaRouche as a "consultant." Berlet also reported that "investigations into campaign financing irregularities by Federal Election Commission staff have repeatedly been sidetracked on orders from superiors under pressure from Reagan Administration officials." [LaRouche Vs. Ill. Demos, by C. Berlet, 4/86.]

LaRouche's current relations with organized racists include tete-a-tetes with leaders from groups like the Posse Comitatus, Heritage Library and the Liberty Lobby. In addition to sharing information and planning political strategy, many of these groups supported LaRouche in his 1984 presidential campaign. Roy Frankhouser, former Grand Dragon of the Pennsylvania KKK has been a paid "security consultant" on LaRouche's staff since the mid-70s. Frankhouser, one of the ten people recently indicted, began his security career in Naval Intelligence. In October 1985, while on LaRouche's payroll, Frankhouser participated in a conference of Klan and neo-Nazi organizations called by Robert Miles. Most recently,

Frankhouser hosted an episode of the Klan TV show, "Race and Reason," sponsored by California Klansman Tom Metzger. All of LaRouche's key security people, including 3 who were named in the October indictments, received weapons and tactics training at the COBRAY Mercenary School in Powder Springs, Georgia. COBRAY was founded by the now deceased Col. Mitchell WerBell. WerBell's military career included being an officer in the OSS, the WWII predecessor of the CIA. COBRAY is part of an international mercenary network.

Although the U.S. government finally moved against LaRouche, his extensive networks and influence are by no means dead. The indictments — against 10 individuals, 2 corporations, and 3 campaign committees only skim the surface of LaRouche's political machine.

The LaRouche brand of fascism, featuring attacks on the human rights of Third World people, Jewish people and gay people, continues to flex its political muscles for a growing crowd of admirers. □



Demonstration in New York City protesting the Supreme Court's anti-gay "sodomy" decision.

New Violence From Neo-Nazis

An offshoot of the Neo-Nazi paramilitary group, The Order, also known as the Bruderschweigen (Silent Brotherhood) has recently re-emerged.

They announced themselves with a rash of bombings in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The self-proclaimed Bruderschweigen Strike Force 2 planted 4 bombs the night of September 30, 1986 outside a Federal courthouse, an Armed Forces recruitment station, a restaurant and a department store. Three of the bombs exploded, but the fourth failed to go off. Three men and a woman were later arrested and charged with the bombings. All of them were known members of Richard Butler's white supremacist group, the Aryan Nations. Soon after the arrests, one of the men involved described his armed group as "the rebirth of the original Order."

These recent bombings flew in the face of the self-congratulatory proclamations the FBI had made, claiming that they had completely dismantled and destroyed this paramilitary formation through recent indictments and arrests. And the September 30th bombings were not isolated incidents. Just two weeks earlier, a pipe bomb had been thrown into the house of a local Idaho human rights leader, Father Bill Wassmuth. He was targeted for being the leader of the Kootenai County Task Force

"Pastor" Robert Miles, who spent time in jail for bombing school buses to oppose school de-segregation, has emerged as a prominent advocate of the increasingly popular "Northwest Aryan Enclave" strategy.

This strategy, advocating a "whites only" nation in the Northwest, was the major focus of the July 12-13 World Aryan Congress. The congress was attended by more than 400 people, and included among its speakers many leaders of the Neo-Nazi and Klan movements: Host Richard Butler of the Aryan Nations; Robert Miles of the Mountain Church in Michigan; KKK Chaplain, Thomas Robb; White Aryan Resistance (WAR) leader, Tom Metzger; White Student Union leader, Greg Withrow; and Debby Matthews, widow of Robert Matthews. Matthews had been the founder and leader of the Order until he was killed in a shoot-out with government agents.

Miles has said of the Aryan Homeland strategy, "... The move to the Northwest is a move to racial peace, to racial perpetuity and to freedom. It is our promised land."

Some, such as Miles, publicly profess that this strategy does not include violence. But actions speak louder than words. We can look to the continued armed actions and the emergence of the Bruderschweigen Task Force 2. We can look to the standing



These children were photographed at the 1986 Aryan World Congress in Hayden Lake.

on Human Relations. The Task Force was responsible for convening more than 1,000 local residents in a rally protesting the mid-July white supremacist World Aryan Congress taking place at Butler's compound.

A protest of this size was a first for the area, serving notice that the Neo-Nazi's presence and plans would not go unchallenged.

A third armed attack occurred on August 1, 1986 in Rossville, Illinois. Two men, both members of the Aryan Nations, robbed a Rossville bank. Both men are still at large. One of the suspects, Thomas Harrelson is engaged to the daughter of Robert Miles, a leading ideologue of today's white supremacist movement.

ovation at the Congress' opening ceremony, given in memory of Order founder, Robert Matthews, or to Richard Butler's invocation of the name of Nazi Rudolf Hess as an order member, honoring him for his deeds.

Others at the conference also minced no words. As Greg Withrow, WSU leader proclaimed, "The white youth of this nation shall utilize every method and every option available to them to neutralize and quite possibly engage in wholesale extermination of all subhuman non-Aryans from the face of the North American continent: men, women, children, ... without exception, without appeal shall be expelled or terminated ... Organizations such as the Order shall be commonplace."

Guards Murder Prisoner

Vinson Harris's last day began in a holding tank at the US Marshal's office in Charlotte, NC on the morning of March 4, 1986. A 31-year-old Black man, he and six other federal prisoners were put on a bus bound for Lewisburg, PA where Harris was to serve a 20-year sentence for bank robbery. He was shackled at the ankles, as were the other prisoners. In addition Harris was fitted with a device called the black box. It fits over wrists and handcuffs to keep the prisoner from tampering with the cuffs and is painful to wear. After a few hours many prisoner's hands swell enormously.

Other prisoners reported that before the bus had left, Harris became the focus of Lieutenant Gerry D. Dale's hostility. Dale, the short, beefy supervisor of the four-man guard detail, told Harris that if he gave them any "shit," he would be in "serious trouble." Seven hours later Harris was dead.

Two other prisoners on the bus, George Harp and Morris Kendall witnessed what took place. As Harp and Kendall tell it, Dale ordered Harris chained to his seat. "If I wasn't chained up like a dog, you wouldn't treat me like this," said Harris. Dale snapped back: "One word and I'm going to tape your mouth." Shortly thereafter when Harris asked, "Can I take a piss?" Dale and another guard dragged Harris to the rear of the bus and beat him up. Harris was brought back, chained to the seat and silenced with a strip of duct tape across his mouth.

That was how Harris arrived at Butner, NC, where the three prisoners were taken off the bus.

From inside the Butner prison Lieutenant Dale obtained some roles of Ace bandage. He and the two guards came back to the bus and began wrapping the bandage around Harris's head — first under his chin and then around his face, eyes and ears. The bandage was also wrapped around his body, pinning his already

shackled hands to his body. It was considered a terrific joke. Other prison personnel came out to peer in the window and laugh. Dale was proud of himself. He showed off to several female guards and said this is "how to make a mummy of a n---r."

Harris began to shake and moan. A physician's assistant from the prison hospital was called. He ran his finger under the bandage at Harris's neck and announced: "Ain't nothin' wrong with him. He's hyperventilating himself."

Dale and the other guards continued the comedy of torture, bringing people from inside the prison to gape and laugh. Then Harris went rigid and slumped against a window. The prison doctor was called. After ordering Dale and others to drag Harris outside, Harris was laid on the ground and the bandage cut away. He was dead.

On March 8 the North Carolina assistant chief medical examiner determined that Vinson Harris had died of asphyxiation. Harris was a "very healthy young man at the time of his death," the doctor said. He also found abrasions on the wrists where the handcuffs had been, indentations on the ankles from the leg-irons, and four lacerations over the inside upper lip that were "compatible with some sort of blow to the mouth."

In the months since Harris died, no criminal charges have been filed. The Raleigh News & Observer has been calling for prosecution of the case, to no avail. A Justice Department spokesperson said the FBI investigation had been completed and government lawyers were trying to decide whether to present the case to a grand jury. Dale and the other guards have yet to comment. Harris's family is outraged and Black leaders in Charlotte charge cover-up. James Barnett, chairman of People United for Justice accuses prosecutors of delaying the investigation in hopes it will be forgotten. "But," he adds, "we're not going to stand for this." □

Watani Tyehimba

from page 4

Coalition, that began to uncover a recent history full of examples of the murderous intent of the US government. Government orchestrated assassinations, campaigns of slander, government forgery, illegal spying, and countless other abuses are enough to convince me that cooperating with this repressive apparatus jeopardizes countless numbers of people. My personal and political beliefs will not allow me to put others in such a vulnerable position.

In addition to my generalized knowledge of the US government's abusive activities, I have personally been a target of government spying. Freedom of Information Act disclosures reveal that as early as 1970 there is documentation indicating that I've been under government scrutiny because of my political beliefs.

The Government is fully aware of my political activities and beliefs. They are aware that I have supported grand jury resisters (people who are willing to go to jail rather than collaborate with the US government's attempt to gather intelligence that would destroy legitimate organizations and movements' struggles for national liberation and independence) and advocated the position of non-collaboration.

Since 1978, more than 20 Puerto Ricans and Mexicans have been jailed for refusing to collaborate with a grand jury investigating the Puerto Rican Independence Movement. Between 1981-83, 14 New Afrikans and white anti-imperialists have gone to jail rather than collaborate with a grand jury investigating the New Afrikan Independence Movement.

The government knew in advance that the issuing of a grand jury subpoena would effectuate my incarceration. They knew that I would become number 15 on a list of those who were put in jail for refusing to snitch on the New Afrikan Independence Movement.

While I am guilty of nothing, experience has proven to me, as well as other New Afrikans, that innocence and moral justification is not enough when you're in the US. This government seeks nothing less than total submission and self-denial in the face of its racist terror. This I refuse to give. I will not cooperate in the violation of humanity, nor will I be used as a pawn by an immoral power. My spiritual, political and moral convictions mandate that I not participate in any way with this inquisition.

The US oppressor nation wants to tell the victims of injustice how we are to struggle and what our goals should be. This hypocritical posture only means that we will forever be plagued by a white racist colonizer, whose interests are not ours. We must make our own decisions and control our own lives. There are no substitutes for independence and genuine self-rule. The many threats, bribes, and escape mechanisms used to control us will prove to be ineffective when we make our decisions with our liberation foremost in mind. **I have chosen New Afrikan Independence over the cowering existence of the slave. I will not betray the memories of all those who have struggled before me, and I will not endanger those who struggle now. I will not collaborate with the grand jury.** □

Kuwasi Balagoon

New Afrikan Freedom Fighter

December 22, 1946 – December 13, 1986

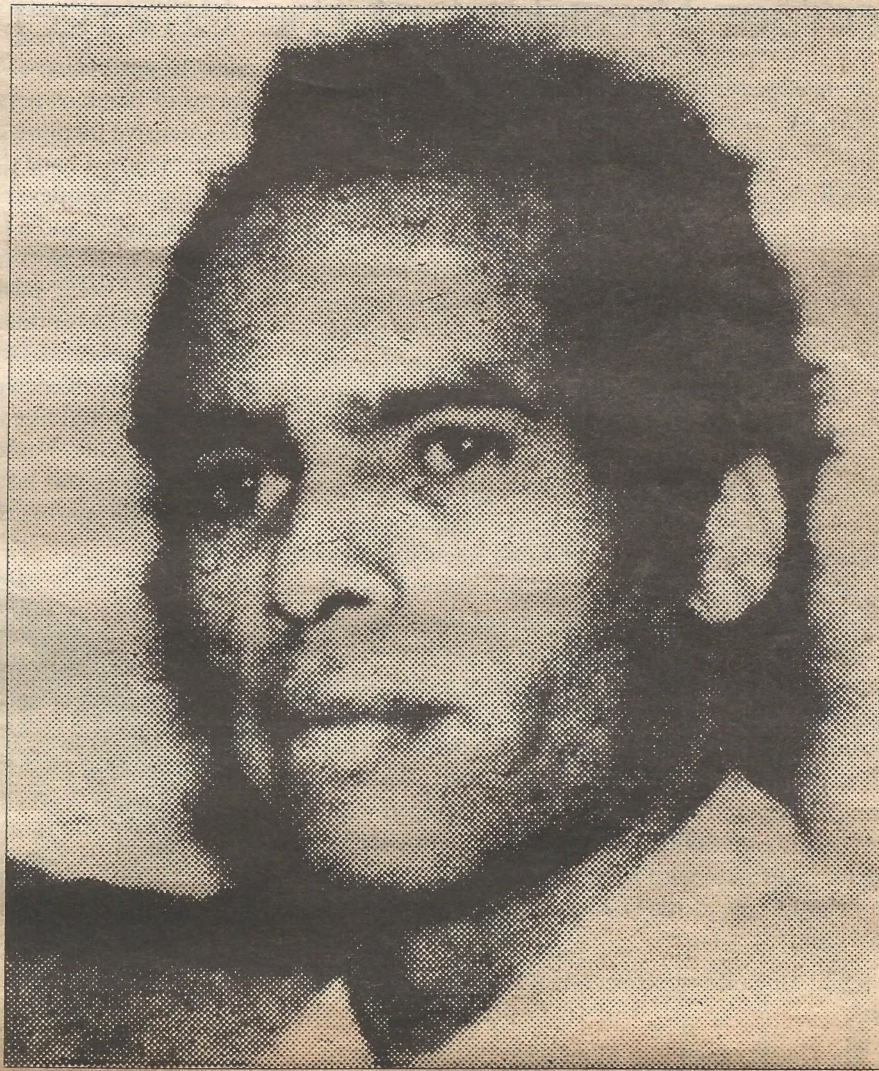
Kuwasi Balagoon, a revolutionary New Afrikan Freedom Fighter, died on December 13, 1986 of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia. He had been incarcerated at Auburn Prison in upstate New York for the past several years when his illness very suddenly and unexpectedly overtook him.

Kuwasi dedicated his entire adult life to working for the liberation of Black/New Afrikan people and all other oppressed and exploited people. He was born Donald Weems in Lakeland, Maryland. He lived there with his parents — Mary and James Weems — and his two sisters until the age of 17 when he joined the U.S. army. It was while stationed in West Germany that Kuwasi was first involved in organized resistance to racism. He helped form "De Legislators" — a group of Black G.I.s that meted out the justice that the U.S. army refused to in response to physical attacks by white G.I.s on Black G.I.s.

Leaving the military, Kuwasi moved to New York City and worked as a tenant organizer fighting slumlords and rat infestation. In 1968 he joined the Black Panther Party and was one of the defendants in the New York Panther 21 conspiracy trial — a frame-up indictment that was part of the government's campaign of repression against the Black Liberation Movement. But Kuwasi did not allow himself to be arrested — he chose to continue his work underground as a founding member of the Black Liberation Army.

Arrested numerous times because of his political work, Kuwasi spent a total of 10 years in various jails and prisons — 7 of those years in isolation. He escaped from maximum security prisons twice. His last arrest was in December 1981 when he was charged in connection with the attempted expropriation of a Brink's armored truck in Nyack, New York. At his subsequent trial on these charges, Kuwasi declared himself a prisoner-of-war and refused to participate in the trial.

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee offers our deepest condolences and respect to the family of Kuwasi Balagoon. We mourn with thousands of others the death of this revolutionary soldier and beautiful man. His fierce love for life, children and nature, and his determination to fight for justice under the most adverse conditions, are an inspiration to all freedom-loving people. In Kuwasi Balagoon's own words, "Without freedom (the ability to live in total), there isn't any big deal in living since to accept fascism is to forfeit life."



Alabama: Activists Battle Voting Fraud Charges

"The Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens Council can close up shop, because the Justice Department is doing their work for them."

— Maryland State Sen. Clarence Mitchell
President, National Black Caucus
of State Legislators
May 25, 1985

The US government is battling organized Black political power using grand juries and criminal indictments to derail a grass-roots voting rights drive in five Black Belt counties of Alabama. The current surge of repression started in mid-1984 after Jesse Jackson won a significant victory in those counties. Scores of grass-roots political leaders were subpoenaed to two federal grand juries, where they were fingerprinted, photographed, and made to give handwriting samples. In Mobile, Birmingham and Montgomery, three more grand juries continued the 'investigation'; while FBI agents combed the five Black majority counties interrogating voters.

FBI agents combed the five Black majority counties interrogating voters.

In June 1985 three long-time civil rights activists, Evelyn and Albert Turner and Spencer Hogue, Jr., stood trial in Selma. Since then there have been some victories and mounting opposition to the govern-

ment's campaign of repression.

The Turners, Hogue, and some Greene County organizers were charged with mail fraud, voting more than once in the 1984 democratic primary and altering 200 absentee ballots of Black voters. All firmly declared their innocence.

Absentee ballots have been always been key to victory for Black candidates in this area because winning margins are often small. The extreme poverty forces many Black people to work outside their counties and vote by absentee ballots.

In July, 1985, Hogue and both Turners were acquitted of all charges. Despite this the government pushed on with the trials of five other Greene County activists.

In the first trial of Union, Alabama, Mayor James Colvin, one of two Black jurors, held firm in his vote for acquittal, causing a hung jury. To avoid a second trial the government struck a deal with Colvin, in which he plead guilty to one misdemeanor and all other charges were dropped. Bobbie Nell Simpson, a white woman who registered Black voters in Greene County, was acquitted on all charges.

Two other Black activists, Frederick Douglas Daniels and Spiver Gordon, an Eutaw City Councilman and leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), challenged the legality of going to trial with an all-white jury after prosecutors systematically removed every prospective Black juror. The judge denied the motion and the trial proceeded. Daniels was acquitted but Gordon was convicted on four counts and faces a maximum sentence of twenty years. Bessie J. Underwood had 24 felony charges

dropped after she plead guilty to one misdemeanor. She was sentenced to two years probation.

Black activists gathered in January 1986 to form the Alabama New South Coalition (ANSC). With a focus on Black empowerment, the ANSC has the support of progressive white and environmental groups concerned with the state's growing toxic waste problem. While the impact of the government's attack was evident in last June's primary elections — voter turnout was down 15% — ANSC initiated Freedom Summer 1986 to train young people in leadership skills to be used along the back roads of Alabama.

Black people from Greene, Lowndes, Perry, Sumpter and Wilcox counties filed a federal class-action suit demanding a

halt to the Justice Department's 'investigation and attacks.' The National Black Caucus of State Legislators is supporting them locally and nationally. In the words of Albert Turner: "They didn't spend a million dollars because they think a few old folks' ballots were changed . . . Most people who vote absentee are older folks who were active in the 60s and they haven't forgotten how mistreated they were. That old fear comes up when you got FBI agents crawling all over them, flashing their badges and carrying them in buses to Mobile to testify before grand juries. They're not going to the trouble of voting next time, and that's exactly what some people here and in Washington are counting on."

One person who had reason to fear was Jeremiah Denton, Alabama's Republican arch-reactionary, militarist US Senator. He lost his November, 1986 bid for re-election and a strong Black vote made the difference. □



Among the activists tried for vote fraud were Greene County workers (from left): Gordon, Colvin, Underwood, Simpson and Daniels.

Photo Credit: ANSC

"... by the year 2000 there will be n

an interview with Joe Brooks

Former President of the Emergency Land Fund

This newspaper presents below a recent interview we did with Mr. Joe Brooks, who was President of the Emergency Land Fund for thirteen years.

No KKK: What is the Emergency Land Fund (ELF)?

JB: It was and is an institution that is South-wide in its coverage, providing direct legal assistance to Blacks who are facing loss of their land. It is an advocate in terms of challenging the land transfer process, which includes confronting federal, state and county agencies that have something to do with land ownership, including many public institutions that have a responsibility for being fair but aren't.

We got laws changed at the state level, believe it or not. We were organizers which, by the way, was the fundamental program of the ELF. We learned early on that we would just be putting out "brush fires" when we responded to individual problems as they came to our attention. It was really a matter of getting with the landowners themselves, organizing them around their interests as they saw them and confronting the local institutions. So we were organizers, advocates, planners, legal providers, a financial institution. We helped organize cooperatives. In 1984 the ELF merged with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives. Together they form an institution with a combined life of almost 40 years known now as the Federation of Cooperatives/Land Fund.

No KKK: How did the Emergency Land Fund (ELF) start?

JB: The Emergency Land Fund went into business in 1971 as a result of the work of Robert S. Browne, who is a Black economist and the founder of the Black Economic Research Center in New York City. He is a well known Black economist. The ELF was his idea, as a result of looking at data and having visited the South himself and having worked in New Orleans. He was alarmed when he looked at the census data of the late 1960s that showed the rapid decline of Black land ownership, agricultural land ownership. Being a political thinker as well as an economist, he was alarmed to see that this trend was undermining any potential power base for Blacks, given that Blacks constitute political majorities in many of the Southern counties, and accordingly organized a group of thinkers and activists (including myself) and formed the Emergency Land Fund in 1971.

No KKK: What motivated you politically to work with the Emergency Land Fund?

JB: Land is power, territory, independence. It conveys a sense of self-worth. Blacks, kidnapped people, brought here against their will, having performed slave labor and accumulated wealth, that's always been in the back of my mind as an adult. And I'm 45, so I was 20 during the sixties, and conscious of what was happening in the South, and thought that it made sense to not only deal with civil rights, but economic empowerment issues. To constitute political majorities without owning anything and being able to influence the situation, in a true sense, didn't make much sense to me. So I began to write about it, and I was found by Robert S. Browne. I was trained as an economist at UC Berkeley, and even taught there.

No KKK: How extensive is the problem of Black land loss in the South?

JB: It has been projected that the year 2000 will mark the end of Black ownership of rural land in the U.S. In 1920 there were nearly a million Black-operated farms; in 1978, fewer than 60,000 remained. At the current rate, fewer than 10,000 Black farmers will be left at the end of this decade. The factors that have pushed Blacks from their land are varied and complex. An inability to farm efficiently is not an explanation; in fact, the percentage return on investment of Black farmers is 15%, compared to 9% for all farmers. Rather, factors contributing to the decline in Black-owned farms are lack of ownership and operating capital, and the concentration of farmlands into larger parcels in the hands of fewer people, largely due to government encourage-

ment of agribusiness. The predominantly small family farms of Black owners cannot compete with the capital-intensive farming of agribusiness. Moreover, Black farmers have a hard time getting loans to upgrade their farming techniques due to discrimination, cumbersome bureaucracies, and a lack of "credit-worthiness" since they own small plots of land. The result is that Black farmers are being pushed off their land. In the 60s and up through the middle 70s the annual loss of Black land was in excess of 250 to 500,000 acres a year. That trend continued and somewhat leveled off during the mid seventies. We would like to claim some responsibility for that leveling off. Understand that before we went into business there was no outcry or conscious effort to challenge the system that was causing Blacks to lose their land.



A lot of this land loss was out of ignorance as well as a result of Black farmers being directly confronted by land agents and others who were ripping land off. Many Blacks did not know that if they did not pay their taxes on time that it could result in a tax sale. They did not realize that you could challenge the welfare system, for example, that required in many cases, that for you to qualify for public assistance, you had to disinvest yourself of your land holdings.

No KKK: What were the mechanisms that were used to take the land and what kind of responses did you develop?

JB: Foreclosure if you couldn't pay your mortgage. Tax sale, that is if your taxes become delinquent, your land is sold at a tax sale. Adverse possession, which simply means if you are not mindful of your boundaries and if somebody encroaches upon your boundaries and notoriously and openly possesses a part of your land and

you fail to contest it, the court will award him that land. That has happened to Blacks. Black people have been run off their land. I'm talking about in modern times. I'm not talking about the twenties and the thirties, I'm talking about the 70s and today, where Black people are intimidated and isolated. And they (Blacks) think the white man's ice water is colder than their own, and are afraid to talk back. And this goes on still to this day.

So imagine a group of younger Blacks, men and women, telling people that they've got to stand up to this stuff. Getting people to go to the courthouse to examine the deed book, which was unheard of. Going in to demand to see the records of the tax rolls, challenging the delinquency process, running Blacks for tax assessor and collector. Trying to take control of the county apparatus. That was the response that we decided was appropriate.

The public consciousness on the part of Blacks was intensified and heightened as a result of our presence. We had a newspaper, "Forty Acres and a Mule." We were on radio stations. We organized local land associations. We were showing up at public auctions. We were covered in the regional print and electronic media and even the national press on several occasions. None of that was happening prior to our arrival on the scene.

But even with all our efforts, land is still being lost at a clip that is alarming and shameful and criminal.

No KKK: What Black people own land in the South?

JB: We're talking about two basic categories of land ownership. On the one hand we're talking about land that's controlled or owned by Blacks who are actually farming and depend on it for a living. And in that case, as of the census of 1981, we were talking about 57,000 Black farm families, with access to about 4 and 1/2 million acres of land, stretching from Arkansas on the west to the Carolinas on the east, from Tennessee to Texas/Louisiana.

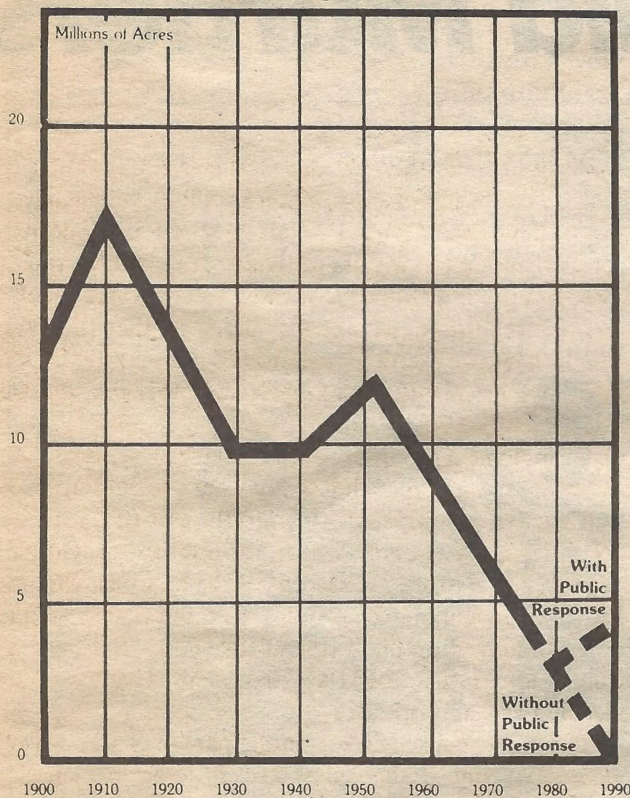
The other group are individuals who own land, but who aren't on the land, who are absentee landowners, and who I call "the upsouth Blacks." Understand what happened and is still happening in some respects is Blacks migrated out of the south, went to Chicago, Philadelphia, New York. My family still owns a farm in Texas for example. The ELF did a study to identify these people. There are more than 750,000 Blacks who are outside of the South, who have title to an additional 5 or 6 million acres over and above the 4 and a half. I'm talking about idle acres, in many cases, very valuable, with timber stands, minerals, oil and gas. Now this land in many cases is being ripped off left and



Black farmers involved in three week takeover of Farmers Home Administration office in Tennessee. They were demanding an end to racist loan policies.

o Black owned land in the South."

Black Land Ownership 1900-1990



right by oil and gas companies, paper and timber companies, the sun belt explosion, all kinds of industries of various sorts, including international joint ventures with American corporations, the Japanese in Tennessee with General Motors, the whole bit. It gives you an idea of the interests involved. I calculate, for example, that in the San Francisco Bay Area alone, we might have as many as 75,000 Blacks who have a land interest of anywhere from a half a million to a million acres in Texas and Louisiana.

One of the interests I have beyond my political interest, is that of economic empowerment and the lack of Black wealth and capital to leverage money for development. I've been trying to figure a way to approach up-south Blacks so that they could leverage this land, not sell it, you can own it, it can be productive and it could also be an asset that could leverage other capital for inner-city development. The interesting thing about this is that the majority of these 750,000 Blacks who are up-south are marginal in economic terms themselves, unemployed, often don't even know that they have a land interest.

No KKK: How did the ELF organize?

JB: We had a system that we called "county contacts." The idea would be to find in every county, and that ended up being over 100 counties, an individual that we could work with. Someone who would be our eyes and ears at the local level. They would subscribe to all of the local newspapers and we would train them to scan the legal notices for the foreclosures and the tax delinquencies. And then we would have another list identifying who were the Blacks. So we were able, with that one individual, at the start, to get some advance notice on any particular Black parcel that was likely to be lost. Off of that one county contact, in over half of those 100 counties, we were able to organize what we called Land Associations. We ended up with 10 or 15, or 20 individuals who, in the main, were landowners themselves, who would not only identify these problems and contact the individuals when they could be contacted, but were actually going to some of these public auctions, pooling their resources, and bidding on the land itself, and in many cases, using this land as the base for an agricultural cooperative. That's just one example.

Another example included confronting several federal agencies that operate in the south and have to do with agriculture, such as the Farmers Home Administration (FHA), which we considered to be one of the chief enemies of Black landowners and farmers. The FHA is an agency of the government that is mandated to be a credit source of last resort to lend capital for farming purposes, to extend agricultural credit. And they discriminate day in and day out because the local committee, even if it's in a Black majority county, often times was made up of white local officials. In some cases we discovered they were Klan members. We were constantly badgering these local officials about their racist practices. In one case in 1982, we took over an FHA office in Tennessee and held it for three weeks. Some of our staff and local farmers, being tired of the

delays in loan processing, being tired of being denied, simply went in one day and stayed for three weeks. It got considerable attention. That stand and that take-over resulted in our effort being joined by whites who felt similarly as small farmers — abused and discriminated against. We even had white farmers from as far away as Missouri and Arkansas join us in Tennessee for that particular "sleep-in."

No KKK: Did you encounter opposition from the government or local business interests? Was the ELF attacked?

JB: Yes. There were character assassinations of individual staff members, who they were, what their beliefs were. There were whites who were involved in agriculture who saw our open attack on the system as a threat.

You have to understand how these local offices of the government were run. They were run on good-ole-boyism, favoritism. Local people served as the decision makers to decide on who would get a loan. So if good-ole-boy John wants a loan, all he has to do is call up and say "I'm coming in to get my money." We were exposing that whole system. That was a threat. A very definite threat.

Fundamentally what Black land ownership is about is power, it conveys citizenship. There are studies and actual situations that I can point to that show that Blacks who own land were more likely to be vocal and civic minded because they could always fall back on their own independence and could make a crop and feed their family. To the powers that be, whether it be the bankers or the local merchants, Blacks holding on to their land, having their land owned free and clear, always represented a political threat. Landowners were the ones who came forward and became active in politics, who were supporters of the civil rights workers, were the ones who mortgaged their land to provide bail money, gave the places where people could stay. All that comes into play, and therefore the reaction by the probate judges, by the local city officials. So we were always getting a reaction from these forces.

No KKK: Were you ever directly attacked by the Klan?

JB: On a couple of occasions. One was at a demonstration, where we protested the government seizure of a Black agricultural cooperative's land, in Harris Neck, Georgia. We organized a series of demonstrations and the Klan was very obvious and open, challenged our presence, made threats, tried to jump on us, but we turned them out. That was regular, they would show up at public meetings. They would even intimidate individual Blacks by isolating them, and telling them not to use the services of the ELF. That's real, that goes on to this day.

Fundamentally what Black land ownership is about is power . . .

No KKK: Tell us about the agricultural cooperatives?

JB: This is in line with the brother/sister relationship we have with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives. If we were going to be in the business of helping individual farmers hold their land, it made more sense for farmers who were isolated from one another and treated badly by the system to band together and pool their resources such as machinery; to farm their land and collectively deal with production and marketing. As a result several cooperatives were established. In Alabama we started with one "county contact" which evolved into a Land Association that purchased land at public auctions. The Federation of Southern Cooperatives was then invited in and they organized an agricultural cooperative within that group. Today in the Sea Islands in Georgia there is a fish co-op, a vegetable cooperative, and cucumber and watermelon cooperatives.

No KKK: Is the Federation of Southern Cooperatives mainly a Black organization?

JB: Yes, but it does have Chicano coops affiliated mainly in Texas and it also has some white coops affiliated out of Kentucky and Tennessee.

No KKK: Does agribusiness play a role in Black land loss in the South?

JB: Yes, definitely. Conventional wisdom suggests that bigger is better. And because of the technology, and the research that is centered in the land grant college system, agricultural operations are encouraged to get larger. It is now assumed [by agricultural scientists] that a farm under 5000 acres is probably an inefficient operation. Therefore, agribusiness—which should be called agricultural monopoly—dominates. It results in you and I today, I'm convinced, paying more at the supermarket for what we eat, because monopoly artificially inflates the price.

One of the other reasons why I have always been a small farm advocate is because, frankly, a small farm, when you look at it, is operated more efficiently. It utilizes the labor of the owner and his family. It uses, more than likely, fewer chemicals and pesticides. It serves local markets. The biggest offense of agribusiness is the devastation of rural communities. In other words, when you have an agricultural giant come in and dominate the agricultural scene, they're not using local inputs — people and supplies. They're importing the chemicals, and exporting the profits. They're not buying what they use from the local grocery store. Therefore you see the decline and the decay of small communities. Over time it's been projected that you might



have as few as 50,000 giant agricultural firms producing all of our food and fibers, whereas right now you have over 2,000,000 units. That will mean that you will have nobody really living on the countryside. You will only have the giant agricultural factories with everybody crammed into the big cities, which I think is an undesirable arrangement. It will have a devastating effect.

No KKK: One of the things said about the "New South" is that things are so much better for Black people, they have political power, etc. Do you see any real changes?

JB: No. My perspective is a little different. I don't consider progress to be when a handful of Blacks get over. That's not progress. Progress is when the masses are affected. There has been no public investment in the education, etc. of the indigenous population, Black or white in the South. You have at the same time, Blacks becoming elected officials in Atlanta, Birmingham, the state legislatures, county supervisors, but you have seen no increase or improvement in the employment of Blacks. And the other indicator is owning something — and we're still wage slaves. So when you talk about the "New South" and opportunities that have accrued to Blacks, you're talking about a handful of Blacks who because of certain requirements to have minority participation have gotten over. Like in Atlanta, where you have a Black mayor, the development of a skyline and office buildings, the airport, the rapid transit system. You had a handful of Blacks who were contractors and in banking, who got over, but the masses of blacks didn't get over at all. And the media only talks about Blacks who've gotten over. But as far as I'm concerned, on the rural countryside and in most of the major cities, the progress that the South claims has not reached the masses of Black people.

People wanting to contact the Emergency Land Fund may write to: Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Fund, Box 95, Epes, AL 35460

KKK Implicated in Atlanta Child Murders

The September, 1986 issue of SPIN magazine hit the newsstands with this shocking expose of the police cover-up of KKK involvement in the Atlanta child murders. The facts outlined here are the basis on which attorney William Kunstler is attempting to win a new trial for Wayne Williams, the Black man convicted of the Atlanta child murders. We are reprinting excerpts from the article because we believe the growth of organized white supremacist terror and police complicity with it are issues of importance to all people committed to fighting racist violence.

Article by Robert Keating and
 Barry Michael Cooper

Race war. In February 1981, officials of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and various other law-enforcement agencies met in a downtown Atlanta office to discuss that devastating prospect. According to court papers, while a task force investigated the Atlanta child murders, another high-level and secret investigation discovered and covered up the fact that a Ku Klux Klan family may have been responsible for the murder of a young black boy and was possibly linked to the murders of 14 others in an attempt to ignite a race war between blacks and whites in the capital of the South.

Faced with this astonishing discovery, these officials, black and white, decided to keep secret the evidence of this plot, effectively hindering the public investigation. Subsequently, his lawyers claim, Wayne Williams, was made a scapegoat — swept up in an investigation that had never centered on him — and rushed to conviction on the basis of evidence that was at best flimsy and at worst nonexistent. Overnight, Wayne Williams became the Atlanta Child Murderer and was sentenced to two consecutive life sentences. Meanwhile, the other investigation was quietly abandoned and incriminating evidence was destroyed.

While police scoured the ghettos, homosexual haunts, and psychiatric wards, according to the testimony of informants who were involved in Klan activity, members of the Sanders family in the backwoods just outside Atlanta carried out their plan to execute one black boy each month while arming themselves with high-powered rifles, fragmentation grenades, and various disguises for the urban war they expected to foment.

According to these informants, 30-year-old Charles Sanders was incensed when 14-year-old Lubie Geter backed a go-cart into his car. Sanders swore: "I'm gonna kill that black bastard. I'm gonna strangle him with my dick." Several weeks later Geter was found dead, strangled to death in a wooded area in the city. Shortly after, Sander's brother Don was heard on a wiretap to tell another Klan brother that he was going out to look for "another little boy."

This evidence, withheld from Williams's defense team during the now famous trial, forms the basis for the petition to reopen the case, which has been made by activist lawyers William Kunstler and Ron Kuby.

The Atlanta child murders case is not over. The story of what happened in Atlanta five years ago is about to be rewritten.

One Friday night in July 1979, Edward Smith said goodnight to his friends at a skating rink and disappeared. Around the same time, 13-year-old Alfred Evans bounded out the front door of his house to go to a kung fu movie, caught a ride from a neighbor, was dropped off at a bus stop, and was never heard from again. Several weeks later, a woman walking along Niskey Lake Road in southwest Atlanta saw a human leg. When police arrived on the scene, they found the bodies of not one but two teenage boys—Alfred Evans and Edward Smith.

Over the next year, 10 more children, ranging in age from 9 to 14, were found dead, mutilated and sexually abused. The relentless killing of Atlanta's young kids gripped the city in fear and hysteria.

On July 7, 1980, the Atlanta Bureau of Police Services (ABPS) joined with other federal, state, and local law-enforcement agencies to form the Special Task Force on Missing and Murdered Children—the largest task force in the history of the United States. Despite the combined efforts of over 400 law-enforcement officers, the murders continued. By December, the total was 18 young black children dead or listed as missing.

On January 3, 1981, 14-year-old Lubie Geter disappeared. His body was found a month later in a wooded area. Dog hairs were found on his body. The cause of death was listed as strangulation. His genitals, lower pel-

vic area, and both feet were missing. An eyewitness claimed she has seen him getting into a car with a tall white man with a jagged scar on his neck.

A month after Geter's body was found, a police informant identified by the code name "B.J. Jones" phoned his contact in the ABPS's intelligence division and said that he had information about the child murders, particularly the killing of Lubie Geter.

Jones, who had a strong record of providing reliable information, had been one of their best informants for 18 years. He said that in 1978 or '79 he had met Charles Theodore Sanders, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, a narcotics dealer, and a drug user, who attempted to recruit Jones into the Klan because of his expertise with explosives. The Klan, Sanders told Jones, was attempting to create an uprising among blacks in Atlanta by murdering black children. Sanders said the Klan was also killing black adults, but not in Atlanta. He wanted Jones's help in committing more murders of Atlanta's black children.

While an "official" task force investigated the Atlanta child murders, another high-level and secret investigation discovered and covered up the fact that the Ku Klux Klan may have been responsible.

Jones [had] dismissed Sanders's boasting as Klan bravado until the summer of 1980, when he and Sanders visited the home of a man named Odell Simpson, one of Sanders's friends. As Sanders parked his car across the street from Simpson's home, Lubie Geter and another boy, Earl Lee Tyrell, were playing with Simpson's son. Geter accidentally ran into Sanders's car with his go-cart.

On January 3, 1981, Lubie Geter disappeared. A month later, Lubie Geter's body was found. On Geter's body were found dog hairs thought to belong to a Siberian husky. Charles Sanders owned a Siberian husky.

The Klan investigation now took off in earnest, with Jones agreeing to recontact Sanders, often while wearing a transmitter and body recorder.

Investigators began to process more information on the various Klan klaverns — among them the National States Rights Party/New Order of Ku Klux Klan, to which Charles Sanders and several members of his family belonged. One of five Klan groups active in the state of Georgia, the National States Rights Party was small but rapidly building, due mostly to its strong advocacy of violence. It drew the more vicious members from other groups, and it was the most active klavern in Atlanta. Klan leaders promised a race war was coming in 1981 and urged their members to arm themselves. According to Special Agent Darrell Adams, training camps for Klansmen were being set up to teach guerilla warfare.



By February, 1981, Police Services investigators were sure that the extremely volatile racial situation in Atlanta was about to explode. They feared that if the Klan investigation was turned over to the Metro Task Force, which was plagued by leaks, the news of the Klan's role in the killing of black children would lead to a war in the streets of Atlanta.

A meeting was called in the early morning of February 27 at the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in Atlanta, attended by Phil Peters, director of the GBI (Georgia Bureau of Investigation); Major Griner of the Atlanta Bureau of Police Services-Special Investigation Section (ABP-SIS); Inspector R. Hambrick, Lieutenant Bob Ingram, Assistant Director Tom McGreevy, and Special Agent Adams of GBI; and Lieutenant Sam Hazel of ABP-SIS.



Peters emphasized how sensitive the investigation was and how necessary it was that these discoveries not be revealed outside the committee. This bunker mentality led to the remarkable situation whereby two investigations into the murders were being conducted simultaneously, one unaware of the other. While the public investigation, mired in chaos and disorganization, pur-

sued wild leads, employed psychics, entertained fantastic theories, and suffered from the ineptitude in its ranks, the secret investigation—run by a committee of sober professionals trying to avert a race war—focused very sharply and efficiently on its subject, the Ku Klux Klan and the violent Sanders family.

In a calm, dispassionate atmosphere, the committee weighed all of the facts and consequences. They agreed on very streamlined organization. Staying away from the headlines, they relied on the discreet tactics of sophisticated electronic surveillance, the savvy of confidential informants, and stakeouts. Without the pressure of trying to find a mass murderer, they gathered evidence step by step to help secure court-ordered wiretaps.

The focus of the investigation was the Sanders family. There were seven members of the family, with extensive criminal records, including Sondra, Charles's wife, who had been convicted on narcotics charges. Collectively, they have a criminal history that stretches back 35 years and includes convictions for child molestation, murder, burglary, assault and battery, narcotics, and drunk driving.

According to the police, they are the epitome of a violent, bigoted, southern Klan family. The patriarch is Carlton Sanders. Since 1951, when he was arrested on suspicion of molestation, a charge later dropped, he has acquired a string of more than 35 arrests for everything from simple assault to wife beating. Of average height and slight build, he is simian in appearance, with sunken jaws, heavy lids, and a low forehead.

The committee decided to terminate the secret investigation and seal its findings.

Carlton Sanders has another distinct physical characteristic, a jagged scar on the left side of his neck, the same type of scar Ruth Warren mentioned in her description of Lubie Geter's presumed kidnapper.

In March, 1981, another Klan informant met with Jerry Sanders and a Klan "brother" of Charles and Don and heard one of them reveal that after killing 20 black children, the Klan was going to start killing black women. The committee stepped up its investigation, poring over Charles's telephone records to verify what it was getting from its second informant. The informants, meanwhile, fed more and more information tying the Sanders family to the killings. According to the informant, identified in documents as "CI-899," "Don Sanders had direct knowledge of who was responsible for the killings."

On March 4, the committee's wiretap recorded a late-night phone conversation. Charles Sanders was overheard negotiating the sale of M16 rifles at a cost of \$25 each and fragmentation grenades at \$50 a case.

"If you threw that motherfucker into a crowd it would have to be someone you really wanted to get," said Charles.

"Yeah," said the other voice, "I suppose the Klan does shit like that."

"Yoo hoo," answered Charles.

On March 2, [1981] 15-year-old Joseph (JoJo) Bell disappeared after leaving his job at a seafood restaurant called Cap'n Peg on Georgia Avenue on the edge of the sprawling McDaniel Glen Housing Project. Nine days later, Jo Jo's best

friend, 13-year-old Timothy Hill, also disappeared. On the night of March 13, another friend saw him dodging his way down Gray Street, talking jive about having been grabbed and how there wasn't going to be any grabber getting him. The next day, Timmy Hill disappeared.

Timmy Hill was found dead of strangulation on March 30 in the Chattahoochee River. Jo Jo Bell would be found dead of strangulation in the South River three weeks later.

The discovery of Timmy Hill's body had dramatically different effects on the two investigations. Stunned by the new murder, the task force investigation became even more panicked. Evidence was being lost, murder sites were being tampered with, conflicting coroners reports were being filed.

However, the secret investigation continued apace, and in the latter part of March, it widened its scope to unlimited taps on the phones of Donald and Terry Sanders. On April 1, the following conversation between Terry and Don Sanders was intercepted:

TS: Hello?

DS: Hey.

TS: Yeah.

DS: Is Ricky around?

TS: Well, he just left with Kenneth.

DS: Do you think he'll be back?

TS: Oh, yeah.

DS: After a while.

TS: Yeah.

DS: I'll just give a buzz back, and I might get out and ride around a little bit, and I might come by there.

TS: Go find you another little kid, another little kid?

DS: Yeah, scope out some places. We'll see you later.

When two caucasian hairs were removed from the underclothes of the fifteenth victim, Charles Stephens, who was found murdered in a trailer park in East Point, Georgia, that was frequently visited by the Sanders brothers, the secret investigation shifted toward gather-



In 1981 at the height of the child murders, Black public housing tenants like Chimurenga Jenga, shown above, organized armed patrols to protect their children.

ing fiber and hair evidence from the vehicles used by the Sanders brothers and from Charles Sanders's husky dog.

As the evidence against the Sanders family grew and the climate in Atlanta turned nastier, the task force investigation continued, unaware of the progress being made by the committee. But even as it narrowed in on the Sanders family, the committee's uneasiness over the meaning of its discoveries turned into fear that the discovery that the Klan was behind the murders would trigger, not avert, racial unrest in the city.

After a series of meetings, the various members of the committee decided to terminate the secret investigation and seal its findings.

A short time after, Wayne Williams, became the primary suspect in the task force investigation. On June 4, Williams was arrested and charged with the murder of two men, Nathaniel Cater and Jimmy Ray Payne, whose bodies were found in or near the Chattahoochee River. The evidence that would lead to his indictment was rug fibers, reportedly found on the bodies, that authorities said matched a rug in Williams's car.

Though Wayne Williams was not charged with the murder of any children (the two victims in the case he stood trial for were 21 and 25), he would have to fight the common impression, and more important, the common belief that he was the Atlanta child murderer. The extraordinary fact of Williams's case is that the evidence against him came down to a few strands of fiber that the prosecution claimed were found on the bodies of the two victims and matched a rug in Williams's car and a blanket in his home.

While such fiber evidence is commonplace in criminal trials, it is rarely the linchpin of any case, in that fibers are notoriously unreliable in connecting anyone to anything. And yet they were essentially the evidence upon which Wayne Williams would be convicted.

The Klan was attempting to create an uprising in Atlanta by murdering Black children. Sanders said the Klan was also killing Black adults, but not in Atlanta.

Unable to discover evidence admissible in court to bring charges against Williams for all the murders, the prosecution instead came through the back door, charging him with two murders for which there were no witnesses, no weapons recovered, no fingerprints discovered, and then linking him to 29 other murders for which the prosecution had even less evidence. But if there's a greater injustice done to Wayne Williams, it is that evidence that may have exonerated him, or at least given him a chance to prepare an adequate defense, was denied him.

Kunstler's challenge to the Williams conviction is founded on his charge that in preventing Williams from knowing that others were suspected of the same crimes and that there was perhaps greater evidence against them, he was denied the right to a fair trial. In his petition to have the trial reopened, Kunstler states that had the prosecution produced the material gathered by the committee's secret investigation, Williams could have demonstrated, among other things, that he was "framed by Atlanta officials attempting to solve both the child murders and preserve peace at the same time." □

Editorial Comment

by John Brown Anti-Klan Committee

The whole world watched as 28 of Atlanta's Black children and adults were murdered one by one. Starting in 1979 this terror campaign directed at Atlanta's Black community seemed endless. Federal and local authorities put together the largest task force in the history of the United States to find and capture the murderer. On June 4, 1981 the task force arrested and charged Wayne Williams, a Black man, with two unsolved murders of young Black men in their twenties.

When Wayne Williams was arrested many progressive white people and many Black people doubted that he was the Atlanta child murderer. The evidence against him was inconclusive, and he was never convicted of murdering any of the 28 missing people. The media found him guilty by implication, and the police closed the case.

Now, more than five years later, new evidence has emerged pointing not only to a railroad of William's, but to a high-level government/police conspiracy to cover up that the actual murders may have been committed by the KKK or individuals associated with the Klan.

The excerpts from SPIN magazine document the latest findings and offer a comprehensive background of the murders. We also want to comment on the old news of police/

government complicity with organized white supremacist violence underscored by this new evidence.

We remember that FBI records revealed an agreement the Birmingham police and FBI made with the KKK to be conveniently unavailable when the Freedom Riders arrived on their Freedom buses. The deal gave the KKK 20 uninterrupted minutes in which to beat and terrorize these pacifists, crippling one man for life.

We remember that a Grand Jury investigation exposed how the police in Greensboro, NC told the KKK who the leaders of the Communist Workers Party were, and were again conveniently absent when the KKK and Nazis arrived at the anti-Klan rally and opened fire on the demonstrators, killing four people. We remember that not one of these murderers ever spent a day in prison.

We remember that when Black people living in Atlanta's Techwood housing project organized armed self-defense patrols the Atlanta police raided the apartment complex and went door-to-door arresting the organizers and seizing people's weapons. Then these people were called violent vigilantes by the press.

And now we hear that the special police task force had not just leads, but mountains of evidence, including wire-taps, informers, eye witness reports, fibers and dog hairs, and con-

sciously decided to suppress this information. Why? They claim they were afraid the Black community in Atlanta would rebel if they knew that the KKK was murdering their children.

They could be right.

What of the task force's claims of concern for Atlanta's peace and well-being? Didn't this secret task force actually decide that the continued murder of Black children and the jailing of a Black man was an acceptable trade-off for 'peace and well-being.' Who's peace and well-being were they really concerned with?

Not the peace and well-being of Black people. The pages of this paper are filled with stories of government and/or police complicity with and participation in racist violence and murder. We are not just looking at a massive conspiracy — though sometimes, like in Atlanta, it may take a conspiratorial form — but at a domestic colonial system so deeply rooted in white supremacy that it breeds and perpetuates racist violence. It is not safe to be Black in Amerikkka.

It may stagger the imagination to think that Atlanta city officials and federal agents deliberately covered-up evidence of KKK attacks against Atlanta's Black community. But the new evidence indicates that this is precisely what happened. What is different about this situation is the brazenness of the conspiracy carried out in this capital of the "New South."

Stop the Cover-Up!

The information suppressed by the secret task force was explosive not only because it showed that the Klan was at war with Black people in the 1980s, but because it exposed the narrow and superficial way in which the 'official' task force had approached the problem. The real job of the official task force was to mask the character of colonial violence by providing the simplest solution — an individual murderer — whether or not he had committed any of the murders. The suppressed information highlights the more basic issue — that Black people, as a whole, need control over their lives, don't have control over their lives, and won't get that control under this system.

One last thought: the exposure of this cover-up generates more questions. When the case was "unsolved" Atlanta was on the front page of every paper in the country. Articles printed in Spin Magazine or this paper reach our particular readers but lack the 'aura of truth' surrounding front-page stories in the New York Times. Why have these disclosures received virtually no attention from the mass media? Do these revelations have any relationship to the murders of Black women that plagued Atlanta for several years? How many more people has the Klan murdered since the investigation was closed? □

KKK Army from page 1

Miller founded the Carolina Confederate Knights of the KKK (CKKKK) less than a year after the 1979 murders of 5 anti-Klan demonstrators in Greensboro, N.C. Boasting of his presence at the scene of the massacre, Miller said "I am more proud of the 88 seconds I spent in Greensboro on November 3, 1979, than I am of the twenty years I spent in the U.S. Army."

In an earlier attempt to thwart the military organizing of the CKKKK, the Southern Poverty Law Center brought a lawsuit against them in 1985. This suit resulted in a Federal court decree ordering Glenn Miller and the KKK to refrain from "operating a paramilitary organization."

Miller's response to the court order was simply to change the name of the CKKKK to the White Patriot Party.

Miller continued to build on many fronts. He ran for U.S. Senator on a platform that called for the repeal of the 14th Amendment (which ended slavery), saving the family farm and "restoring the rights of white workers" by the massive deportation of undocumented immigrants. White Patriot Party (WPP) marches of several hundred camouflage-attired men in military formation, marching under the confederate flag, became a regular sight in the towns of North Carolina. Incidents were reported to federal authorities of WPP members shooting at Black people in their homes and in their cars.

The WPP launched a successful recruitment drive among active duty servicemen, organizing them into their "White Christian Army." Enlisting the aid of active duty personnel from Camp Lejeune (Marine Corps) and Fort Bragg (U.S. Army), Miller outfitted the White Patriot Party with stolen U.S. military hardware. Other military personnel assisted by training WPP members in the use of this deadly equipment. The goal, according to testimony in the Millers' July trial, was "to create a paramilitary guerrilla unit for later use in creating a white Southland."

Again this July, the Southern Poverty Law Center demanded that these activities be stopped, and that the courts be accountable to their 1985 decision. Ex-Klansmen, some also former Marines, testified to the continued arsenal build-up and secret weapons training being carried out by the White Patriot Party with the aid of active duty U.S. armed forces personnel (see box page 1 for details). Witnesses at the trial testified about Miller's goal of training and arming white people for "a

ground army, The Order, said that Order leaders had given \$300,000 in stolen money to Glenn Miller. Evidence that corroborates this link emerged in the trial when ex-Marine Robert Jones testified that WPP "Chaplain" Stephen Miller went with him in early 1985 to a farm near Fayetteville, N.C., where they met with David Lane. Lane is a member of The Order who was wanted by federal authorities at that time, and finally arrested in March 1985 in Winston-Salem, N.C. Jones testified that at the meeting with Lane, WPP member Doug Sheets produced a duffel bag full of money and said they would have "no more problem with cash" because the group had received a "large contribution to the White Patriot Party." In addition, FBI agents testified that documents of The Order contained the code names "Rounder" and "Rounder II." When decoded, "Rounder" and "Rounder II's" phone numbers matched those of Glenn



A WPP march. Circled individuals were active duty Marines at the time of the rally.

and Stephen Miller.

After deliberating for 6 hours, the jury returned a guilty verdict on July 25, 1986. It found both Millers in contempt of court for violating the court's 1985 order by operating a paramilitary organization. This verdict is significant and precedent setting, in that it forced the government to admit the existence of these paramilitary camps and exposed the growing neo-Nazi movement in the South.

150-200 members of the WPP and the Christian Knights (another N.C. Klan organization) rallied in downtown Raleigh N.C. on September 22, 1986, just two weeks after the sentencing. Increasing community opposition to North Carolina

Racist Murder from page 1

trapped and brutally beaten a second time by the mob. Sandiford later reported that at least one of the attackers accompanied the chase from the pizza parlor in a car, and then turned onto the freeway. Now seriously injured, Sandiford feigned unconsciousness, and was finally abandoned. Griffiths attempted to flee in the only direction possible — onto the six-lane freeway. Moments later he was struck and killed by a motorist, Dominick Blum, an off-duty court-cop. Later that night Sandiford exposed the enormity of the attack by identifying Blum's car as the one that had accompanied the chase from the pizza parlor.

Police have refused to arrest Blum, however. Instead, according to Sandiford's attorney, Alton Maddox, they questioned Sandiford about a robbery and kept him in the police station for three hours without a phone call before taking him to a hospital. Police then tried to make him view a line-up. Partially blinded from his injuries, Sandiford said he could not view a line-up at that time. When Sandiford later tried to file a complaint, police threatened him and Maddox. Queens DA Santucci subpoenaed Sandiford to a preliminary hearing and again he refused.

Speaking for Sandiford, Maddox said that the police refusal to arrest Blum, attempting to force Sandiford to view the line-up when his injuries impaired his vision, not impounding Blum's car and changes in police stories were all indications of an official cover-up in process. He said that Sandiford would not participate in a cover-up.

Eleven white men were originally held in the case, but all charges were dropped on eight. Judge Bianci subsequently dropped the murder and assault charges on the remaining three, saying that there was "insufficient evidence" without Sandiford's testimony. The police and District Attorney's office then set in motion a media campaign to discredit Sandiford and attorney Maddox, claiming that Sandiford was being "uncooperative" and that Maddox was to blame. New York's Mayor Koch, other public officials and the *New York Times* have all denounced Sandiford and Maddox for the DA's refusal to carry out justice.

In statements to the press, attorneys have made their position clear: "No justice has ever been done when whites kill Blacks," Maddox said. "Look at the Michael Stewart case. The prosecution engineered the acquittal of the murderers. Look at the cases of

Clifford Glover and Willie Turks. There is a cover-up going on and there is no basis to trust the police to unravel it." Stewart was a graffiti artist beaten to death by police in a subway station. Nine-year-old Glover was shot to death by police on a Queens street. A white mob attacked and killed Turks in Brooklyn. Maddox demanded and won the appointment of a special prosecutor, unattached to the police or district attorney's office. Under these conditions Sandiford will offer his full cooperation and testimony.

What is extraordinary about the Griffiths murder is that it is receiving national attention on a daily basis as the story unfolds. Jane Steinfeld, of JBAKC in New York, commented on this, recalling that reporting of racist atrocities is usually local and limited. "Griffith's murder was like a lynching and has outraged the Black community," she said. "But even with all the attention, there is still a cover-up going on. This was not just the unspeakable act of a racist mob; they have the support of their entire community and the implicit support of the entire system."

The outrage sweeping through New York's Black community is being turned into grassroots mobilizations which are raising issues that go beyond the particular facts of Michael Griffith's murder.

Black people are demanding justice and are targeting the police, the courts and Mayor as racist. Mayor Koch, the media and some establishment Black politicians have, so far, been unable to contain this groundswell. Speaking out of both sides of their mouths, Koch and police commissioner Benjamin Ward, are simultaneously denouncing the murder as a "lynching" and slandering the Black attorneys who represent one of the attack's survivors — Cedric Sandiford.

In the first week of January, 1986, more than 2,000 Black people met in Brooklyn to confront the continuing cover-up of racist violence. At this nationalist gathering the white press and politicians were barred. Virtually all grassroots Black organizations and leaders are rallying in defense of the struggle represented by Sandiford, Michael Griffiths and Alton Maddox. Looking to the lessons of the movement in Azania/South Africa, community leaders called for a boycott of white owned stores in the Black community on January 27th.

Winter in America, the new year in New York is bringing the dividing battle against white supremacy to the forefront once again.

Postscript

On January 7, 1987, five former members of the WPP were indicted on charges of conspiracy to acquire stolen military weapons, explosives and equipment. Stephen Miller, Wendell Lee Lane, Simeon



A unit of the White Patriot Party. This picture was taken from an article in a racist newspaper, praising the WPP.

future conflict, in which an Aryan nation would topple the Zionist Occupation Government [U.S. government], lynch thousands of Jews from lampposts, and ship Black people to Africa on leaky boats mined to explode and sink in mid-ocean."

Evidence presented to the judge revealed Miller's links to other violent right-wing organizations. In a 1985 confession to the FBI, Bruce Carroll Pierce, number two man in the neo-Nazi under-

Klan organizing is reflected in the Black community counter-demonstration of over 500 people, which took place on the same day.

While exposing their violent activities the trial is far from ending them. Despite all the evidence presented, Glenn Miller was sentenced in early September to only six months in federal prison and three years probation. Stephen Miller's 6 months sentence was suspended and replaced with

Davis, Anthony Wydra and Robert Jackson were charged with receiving military equipment stolen from a federal armory in Wadesboro, NC, planning robberies to finance para-military operations and plotting to kill Morris Dees, Executive Director of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Thanks to *Common Cause*, the *Newsletter of North Carolinians Against Racist and Religious Violence*, and the *Charlotte Observer* for information used in this article.

Illegal Search Exposed

The government's case against Marilyn Buck and Dr. Mutulu Shakur was set back when the judge decided to suppress all the evidence taken from a 1981 raid on an apartment in East Orange, New Jersey. The judge ruled that when police defined the object of the search as "anything relevant to the crime," the warrant was too broad and unconstitutional. As a result, evidence taken under that warrant may not be used in court. If upheld on appeal, the judge's decision is a victory, not only for Buck and Shakur, but for all political activists.



Marilyn Buck

Dr. Shakur is a revolutionary Black nationalist and trained acupuncturist who has been involved in the struggle for Black people's human rights since he was 15 years old. Ms. Buck is a white woman who has committed her life to fighting against racism and white supremacy and to supporting the struggle of Black people for liberation in the U.S. Revolutionaries who were living in clandestinity, they face extensive indictments under the Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organizations (RICO) law, on charges stemming from the successful prison escape of Black Liberation Army member Assata Shakur in 1979 and several politically motivated bank expropriations, including the attempted Brinks expropriation in 1981.

Inside the Metropolitan Correctional

Center (MCC) in New York, Buck and Shakur provide us all with strong examples of resistance. Shakur continues to be held in punitive segregation (the hole) following a concocted infraction of prison regulations. According to prison rules he should be out by now, but prison officials are keeping him there in response to his demand to be placed in a single cell. The prison has a practice of pairing "snitches" or actual undercover police with prisoners as a way to gain information. For this reason, many political prisoners at MCC have demanded single cells.

Buck is back in the main prison population after serving 30 days in the hole for refusing to give a urine sample. She stated that she opposed the test based on the principle of non-collaboration with government investigations and that she would resist any attempt to force her to give a



Dr. Mutulu Shakur

sample in the future. Another North American political prisoner, Laura Whitehorn, is still in the hole for the same refusal.

Shakur is also preparing for a hearing in which he is claiming status as a Prisoner of War. Joining with other Black and Puerto Rican revolutionaries who state that as freedom fighters for their nations, the court of the oppressor nation has no jurisdiction over them, they declare that only an international court has the right to judge their actions. □



Close The Control Units!

Almost 200 people turned out on December 6 in freezing Chicago weather to demand an end to the lockdown at Marion prison and that the women's control unit at Lexington, Kentucky be shut down.

The demonstration had been called in early November at a "Conference for Education and Action," organized by the Committee to End the Marion Lockdown (CEML). According to organizers, "The conference grew out of our view that Marion is not a 'prison problem,' but one aspect of the increasingly repressive political climate in this country. It is related to the rapidly increasing number of people imprisoned for their political beliefs and activities and to the fact that Black people are imprisoned at a rate higher than any other people in the world."

175 people attended workshops that featured speakers from the New Afrikan Independence Movement, the Puerto Rican Independence Movement, Sanctuary Movement, and progressive lawyers and civil liberties activists.

The lockdown at Marion Prison has been condemned by religious and political activists across the country. For three years, the 350 men at Marion have been caged in small cells 23 hours a day — denied all contact visits, denied access to work programs, educational activities or religious services, and subjected to frequent beatings and humiliation. Marion is rapidly becoming one of the major political internment centers in the U.S. New Afrikan Prisoners of War Sekou Odinga and Sundiata Acoli, as well as North American political prisoner Tim Blunk are incarcerated there.

The women's control unit at Lexington was opened in October, 1986. Lexington is a modern-day dungeon. Located in the basement and separated from all other prisoners at Lexington, women in the control unit face inhuman conditions. Cells get no natural light. Women are strip-searched every time they leave their cells, often by male guards. Cells are constantly monitored by guards and video cameras. Visits are restricted to family members and attorneys — no friends are allowed, and all visitors are photographed as they enter the prison. The Bureau of Prisons is planning to fill the control unit with political prisoners. Currently there are only three women housed in this unit, which is projected to hold 16. They are Alejandrina Torres, Puerto Rican Prisoner of War, Susan Rosenberg and Silvia Baraldini, North American political prisoners.

A spokesperson for the CEML said, "We refuse to allow these Control Units to survive and we dedicate ourselves to working until they are closed down — forever! To accept Marion and Lexington is to accept being inhuman. To build a meaningful movement — one that is capable of helping to build a new society — the issue of white supremacy, and therefore prisons, must become foremost on our agenda."

CEML is distributing a petition opposing the lockdown and the selective mistreatment of political prisoners and prisoners of war. If you're interested in circulating them in your area please contact the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee. □

Ohio 7 Face New Charges



In a victory for the Ohio 7 defense a mistrial was declared in the case of Richard Williams, who was on trial along with Tom Manning for the shooting death of a New Jersey state trooper in 1971. Manning was convicted in the case, having admitted shooting the trooper in self-defense. Part of the clandestine revolutionary movement at the time, Manning explained that after being stopped by the highway patrol, the trooper recognized him from his wanted poster, pulled him out of the car and fired a shot near his head. His testimony that Williams was not even at the scene, challenged the government's attempt to implicate Williams by association.

At the conclusion of the trial Judge Imbriani announced that he would cite the

lawyers and defendants for contempt of court for refusing to rise when he entered the courtroom. Attorney William Kunstler said that the lawyers had been acting in solidarity with the defendants who respected the jurors but not the judicial system.

This trial followed a 5½ month trial in which all of the Ohio 7 were convicted on charges stemming from a series of bombings in 1982-85. In addition to Williams and Manning, the Ohio 7 include Ray Levasseur, Pat Gros, Carol Manning, Jean Lamaan and Barbara Curzi-Lamaan.

The government charged the Ohio 7 with bombing the offices of the South African government, corporations that do business with South Africa and military

installations. The acts were claimed by the United Freedom Front in support of the freedom struggles in South Africa and El Salvador and in solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and the Sandinista revolution. They were given sentences ranging from 48-98 years.

In addition to physically assaulting the 7 in prison, shooting them with stun guns, imposing enormous sentences and kidnapping the Manning children for three months — the government is now seeking even more charges. In September, a Federal Grand Jury returned an indictment against the Ohio 7 and Chris King, a Black activist, for seditious conspiracy. This trial will take place some time in 1987. With life sentences already on the books, why is the government pursuing more trials and expense?

The answer lies in the fact that the government has more at stake than the incarceration of these particular revolutionaries. Despite the long terms given the Ohio 7, the government did not fully succeed in its goals: to deny the political identity of the Ohio 7 and to project their case as a criminal matter. Instead, the 7 were able to put on a political defense, detailing

the role of U.S. corporations in maintaining apartheid in South Africa, and presenting the jury with an impassioned statement of the need to resist the actions of the U.S. government. The jury was moved to the extent that they deliberated for 3½ weeks and then were unable to reach a verdict on half of the counts. The 7 emerged from the trial not as criminals but as strong women and men who have committed their lives to resisting U.S. imperialism and to changing things in this country.

The seditious conspiracy charge represents a different strategy on the part of the government. This law charges that there is an "agreement between people . . . to hinder executing the laws of the U.S. government by force." To convict on this charge the government has only to prove that you agreed with others to oppose the government by force. They don't have to prove that you actually engaged in any act at all. The "crime" of seditious conspiracy is the "crime" of revolutionary thought and intention. Seeking to weave a web of illegality around all progressive movements, seditious conspiracy carries with it the possibility of life imprisonment. □

From the New Afrikan Peoples Organization

The New Afrikan National Territory Needs Liberation and Development



The "New South" — sun drenched cities, basking in the glow of economic expansion, and having achieved racial reconciliation — is the latest myth in white america's pantheon of illusions. The Sun Belt is touted as an example of u.s. socio/political maturation, and the proof that things are indeed "getting better." There is Atlanta, "the city too busy to hate," New Orleans, Birmingham, and more; all headed by Black mayors. Surely, this portends a future free of Black subjugation and without economic isolation. But like all myths, this illusion evaporates when one takes a closer look.

The "New South" still suffers from the same old ills. Black economic subjugation, educational deprivation and political impotency. How can this be when all one hears is just the contrary? White america has a penchant for focusing on the anomalies, the exceptions, all the while hoping that the general rule is overlooked. This is the case in the marketing of the Sun Belt, especially when it comes to those predominantly Black counties of the old plantation region that is known as the Black Belt. In the medium and small towns the stratification and old cleavages persist.

In the sphere of industrial development and labor relations the same old exclusionary and racist policies exist. However, the strategic objectives of the imperial overlords are accomplished with tactics that are a little more sophisticated. Instead of proclaiming the virtues of "friendly, native Anglo Saxon labor" as a means of attracting industry, as in the 1930s, now the more covert and insidious policy of economic redlining is used. A recent article in an Atlanta paper revealed that industry has a systematic policy not to locate in Southern counties that have populations that are greater than 30% Black.

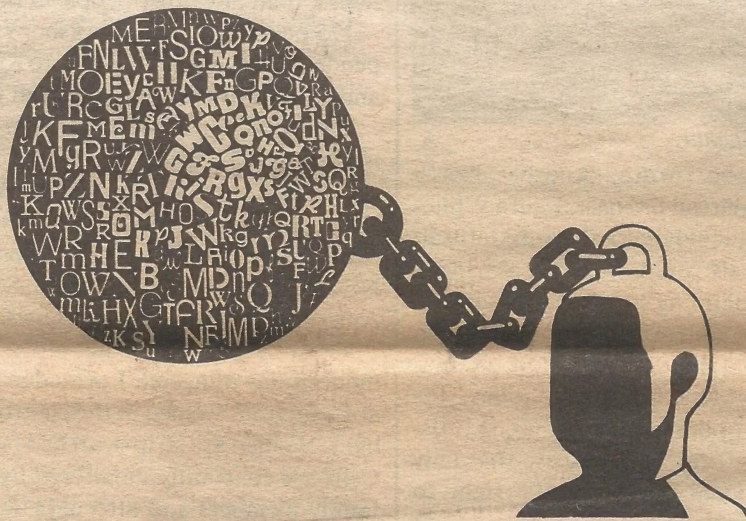
The convoluted rationale goes like this:

"Blacks have always, in order to get anything had to unite and organize. We found that when you got over 30 percent Black population, you would tend to get a unionized plant." This policy of blaming the victim combined with entrenched racial antipathy results in the continued economic subjugation of Black counties. This happens whether or not there exists a Black administration in the area. It forces Black areas to seek such things as dog racing or even toxic dumps as a means of providing jobs/revenue in the area.

The sphere of education is little different. Integration, thought by some to be the panacea for Black educational disparities has brought little, if any, benefits to Black people. The recalcitrant patricians stalled and protested long enough to get their system of white private schools in place. Integration is no longer an issue. What you

and psychologically abuse their Black charges. The results are the same as thirty years ago — educationally stunted Black youth whose futures consist of minimum wage jobs, long cycles of unemployment, and "economic conscription" as cannon fodder for the u.s. imperialist military forces.

Politically, plantation relations still prevail. Even where you have Blacks in elected positions you have the unseen hand of the white landowners and commercial interests manipulating Black lives. If this is not sufficient, their paramilitary partners — KKK, Nazis, White Patriot Party, etc. — assist in keeping Blacks in their place. In one Black Belt county with a Black administration (4 of 6 supervisors are Black) one white man owns one of every 10 acres in the county, controls the second largest bank and is one of the largest employers. His



have is a public school system overwhelmingly Black with little resources to meet their students' educational needs. Side by side exists a white private school system whose friend in the white house is poised to give them subsidies, tuition and tax breaks. Quite often in districts passing as integrated you have white racist administrators and teachers who both physically

economic domination has influenced the tax, wage and educational policies of the local government.

Simultaneously, while the new enlightenment in race relations is being pushed in the media, white right-wing terrorist groups are mobilizing in the shadows. The KKK has been revealed to be prime actors in the deaths of the Atlanta children. In

Alabama a Black man is found lynched — the KKK has been acknowledged as the perpetrators. Black workers and organizers are harassed in North Carolina, and Black women are the targets of Klan gunfire in Tennessee. But we are to believe the situation has changed!?!

The fact cannot be avoided. The New Afrikan National Territory is still under siege. No amount of Madison Avenue manufactured illusions can fully obscure this reality. Existing as an underdeveloped nation subjugated in imperialism's bowels, what is needed is the socio/economic transformation that can only be brought about in an independent socialist New Afrikan nation. No patches on a festering, inherently exploitative system will facilitate this transformation. Even sincere attempts of Black elected officials will prove useless within the context of a white imperialistic construct. All sectors of New Afrika united for national liberation is the prerequisite for this fundamental change. Then in this new, independent, context our votes will have meaning. Our task remains the liberation and socio/economic development of New Afrika.

TAKE THE LAND!!

New Afrikan People's Organization
P.O. Box 2348, New York, NY 10027
P.O. Box 5698, Los Angeles, CA 90056
P.O. Box 04252, Detroit, MI 48204
P.O. Box 11464, Atlanta, GA 30310

Send Us News!

Dear Readers:

Over the past two years we've seen an alarming increase in violent racist incidents — harassment, vandalism, cross-burnings, assaults, lynchings and murders. We've also witnessed Klan and neo-Nazi organizations carry out a multi-level media campaign to build their movement using leafleting, newsletters, telephone hatelines and the airing of the "Race and Reason" TV Show (now playing in 20 cities). At the same time, these white supremacists are uniting their forces and building underground paramilitary armies.

As we build an anti-racist movement, up-to-date facts about the racist right-wing are vitally important. We all know that the regular media is not a reliable source of information. That's why we're asking you, our readers, to watch for news of racist activity and anti-racist resistance in your areas.

Please send us news clippings or eyewitness accounts. We will use what you send us to put out a better paper. We want to present more detailed analysis about what the white supremacist organizations are doing, as well as carry more information and debate about anti-racist work in different parts of the country. Your input and contributions are needed and greatly appreciated.

The Editors

From the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee

Who We Are

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee (JBAKC) is a countrywide organization that struggles against the racist violence of the KKK and Nazis and against their underlying cause: the system of white supremacy. We take our name from John Brown, the white abolitionist who said "NO!" to racism and genocide, and dedicated his life to fighting for Black people's freedom from slavery. In this tradition we build solidarity with Black liberation and support struggles for human rights and self-determination.

JBAKC started in 1977 supporting Black prisoners at Napanoch Prison in New York, who exposed a KKK klavern numbering 35 guards and led by the Grand Dragon of the state Klan. Today, we continue organizing campaigns to challenge resurgent white supremacy: from the Federal government to killer cops, from the New Right to the KKK and Aryan Nations. Our commitment to human rights and freedom leads us to support political prisoners and prisoners of war jailed for resisting US imperialism. We

support the struggles of the South African/Azanian and Palestinian peoples to overturn apartheid/colonialism and Zionism.

This is a white supremacist country. Founded on African slavery, genocide and theft of Indian lands, the system of domestic colonialism remains the cornerstone of America's worldwide empire. A century after the Civil War and 25 years after the Civil Rights movement how much has really changed? New Afrikans (Black people in the US) remain economically and politically colonized. Black people are still struggling for freedom and independence in the so-called "land of the free."

Now the KKK and Nazis are rebuilding a fascist movement to attack new Afrikan and all Third World people. The right-wing also targets Jewish people, lesbians and gay men. From coast to coast religious fundamentalists are bombing abortion clinics, violently opposing women's right to reproductive choice.

We can't allow white supremacy and terror to continue unchallenged. A strong anti-racist movement among white people

is needed to effectively resist all these attacks and stop them at their source. The fight against the KKK and for Black liberation has always been pivotal to progressive and revolutionary change in this country. History shows that anti-racist movements rooted in support for the right of the Black Nation/New Afrika to self-determination can grow into a powerful force for justice. This is why JBAKC supports the New Afrikan Independence Movement and its program for land and nationhood in the Black Belt states of Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana.

National Office:
San Francisco: 220 9th Street, No. 443
SF, CA 94103 • 415-431-8339

Local Chapters:
New York: P.O. Box 406 • NY, NY 10009
212-244-4270

Chicago: P.O. Box 7239 • Chicago, IL 60680
312-769-8159

Boston: P.O. Box 757 • Allston, MA 02134

Zion from page 3

Klan organizing in Zion is part of a regional organizing effort by the Illinois Knights of the KKK. Chicago Klan leaders Jack Quinn and Ed Melkonian were among those arrested after the city commissioners meeting and both have been actively leading Klan activities in Zion.

Community residents had been warning for almost a year before Fahim's murder that Klan organizing would result in violence but the city fathers had turned a deaf ear to their concerns. Citizens Against the Klan (CAK) formed in October 1985 out of concern about Klan activity at the local high school. During 1986 the group pursued three main demands: 1. The City Commission must rid Zion of the Klan; 2. Create a human relations commission; 3. Create a civilian police review board.

During summer, 1986, CAK organized several community meetings and demonstrated at the groundbreaking of the North Point Marina. The new marina, a pet project of Illinois Governor Thompson, is located in lily-white Winthrop Harbor, known for its racism. Winthrop Harbor, bordering Zion on the North, has always been a place that Black people have felt threatened to even drive through. CAK demonstrations protested the expenditure of State funds on a project that would not serve Black and poor people in the community and demanded that there be no groundbreaking until the Klan was driven from Zion.

In the face of this public pressure, the Klan's public organizing in Zion has receded. At the end of 1986, CAK transformed itself into Citizens United for Peace and Progress (CUPP). Its primary actions are directed towards getting better representation for Black and poor people on the City Commission. However a CUPP spokesman made clear that they don't see Klan organizing as a thing of the past in the Zion area. Citizens United for Peace and Progress can be reached at P.O. Box 42, Zion, Illinois, 60099. ☐

Students Run Klan Off Campus

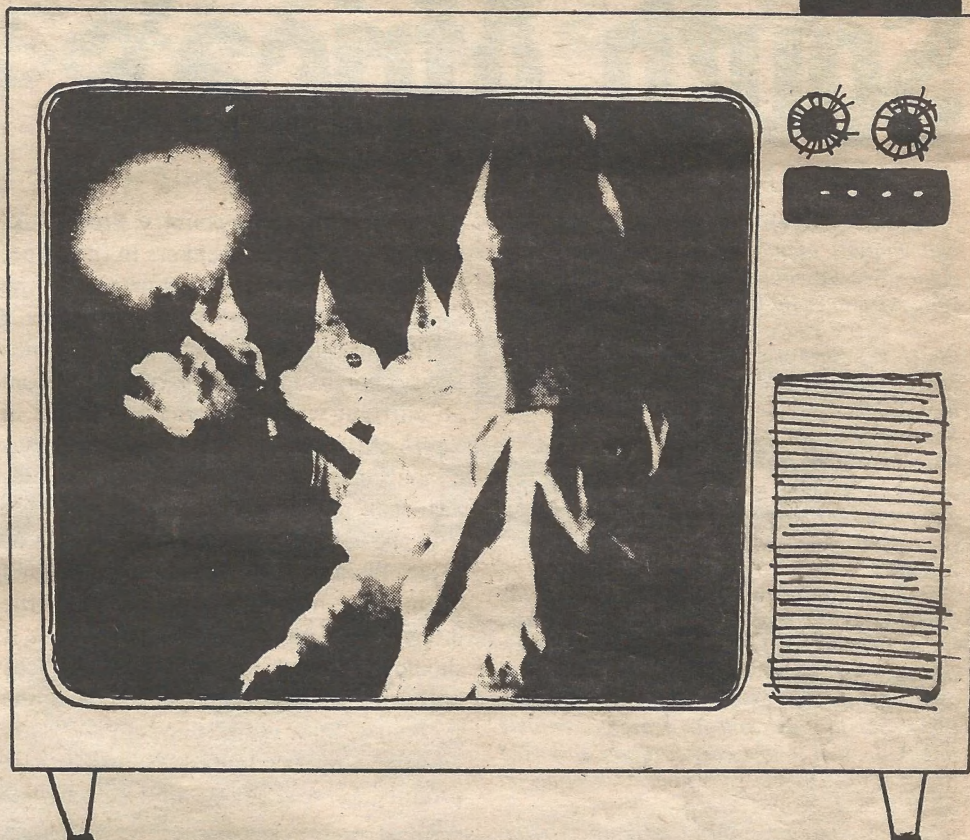
Students at California State University, Fullerton have thrown Tom Metzger and his neo-Nazi TV show, "Race and Reason," off their campus. Weeks of demonstrations, marches and rallies shut down the taping of the TV show that had been taking place on their campus for two years.

The struggle began on April 2, 1986, a day which had been designated "Apartheid Awareness Day" at Cal State Fullerton. That morning, the campus newspaper, "The Daily Titan," broke the story that Tom Metzger, former California KKK Grand Dragon and current leader of WAR (White Aryan Resistance), had been using campus video facilities to produce his cable TV show. After completing his tapings, Metzger would send these programs to community access cable stations across the country. The show is aired on 20 cable systems nationwide, eight of them in California, including Viacom Channel 25 in San Francisco.

The campaign grew quickly as more and more students joined the call to oust Metzger from the campus. The university administration responded by defending Metzger's "right to free speech." Students soon discovered that their school had a \$200,000 agreement with Group W Cable for use of the campus video studio to tape "community access" programming and that the racist "Race and Reason" show fell within Group W's guidelines, despite the show's open advocacy of genocide for Black and Jewish people.

Most students rejected the administration's free speech defense of Metzger's "right" to organize for white supremacy. One student wrote in the April 9 Daily Titan: "I don't believe this issue (free speech) even applies to the Ku Klux Klan, the Aryan Nations, and the W.A.R. Racism is not a debatable issue. It is wrong and it is evil."

As the campaign gathered momentum, the administration threatened to cut off financial aid to any student "involved in disruption." At the same time, white power leaflets, anti-Black stickers and



spray painted swastikas appeared, and students discovered that a White Student Union (WSU) chapter was organizing on campus. A student employee at the video studio who had voiced his opposition to the TV show was harassed by WSU and WAR members and forced to quit his job. Still, the campaign continued to grow.

Early in May, the Coalition Against Apartheid and Human Rights Violations called for a sit-in at the next taping of Metzger's show. As word of this got out, the administration announced the cancellation of "Race and Reason" due to "equipment failures." Group W then announced cancellation of their contract with the university and moved their community access tapings to their downtown Fullerton studios.

Both the university and Group W say their decisions were "unrelated" to the protests, but even Metzger had to admit in his newspaper that he was forced off campus because WAR had "lost their low profile."

After the successful campaign, we interviewed Bob Milner from the Coalition Against Apartheid and Human Rights Violations. The following are excerpts from our conversation:

Bob: Nobody knew anything about Tom Metzger before the story broke in the campus paper. I didn't even know who he was. Several students who had been working on the [taping of the] program had found the show, "Race and Reason," so disgusting that they decided to come forward. He'd been on campus for 2 years, but this was the first time anyone stepped forward.

When we found out that Metzger was filming on campus, the Coalition decided to take up the issue. We felt we would be hypocritical to voice our opposition to what is happening in South Africa and remain silent about racism right here on our campus.

No KKK: Can you tell us about the debate in the Coalition about whether you were "giving the Klan publicity?"

Bob: There were different opinions in the Coalition, just as in any large group. We didn't feel we were giving Metzger publicity — we were doing just the opposite: exposing him. He already had "Race and Reason" for publicity. But everyone agreed we had to keep the pressure on. We had a total of four protests in five weeks. This had never been done at Fullerton.

No KKK: Why do you think Metzger taped his show at your campus?

Bob: It's not surprising that Metzger came to Fullerton. We have less than 500 black students out of 24,000 and a very small number of Hispanic and Asian people. It's a lily-white university.

No KKK: Looking back, how do you view the campaign?

Bob: There's no question but that it was a success. The result is that Metzger is no longer on campus. Metzger vowed to continue filming at Cal State Fullerton and just as he vowed, we vowed to protest and obstruct any further tapings. Our group has stood very strong, the largest protests in the history of the campus. People worked 24 hours-a-day to put these protests together. Never had students felt so strongly about an issue.

★ ★ ★ ★

Klan TV Cancelled in Concord

A Concord cable television company cancelled the first scheduled showing of "Race and Reason" on October 17, 1986 and said it would refuse all future airing requests.

"They're racists and that's enough for me to make this decision," said the president of Concord TV Cable.

Free Geronimo Pratt



This is a critical time to bring his case to the public and put pressure on political figures and the California Department of Corrections (CDC) to free him.

Geronimo was originally framed and remains in prison today because of COINTELPRO, the US government's Counter Intelligence Program, that planned and carried out a strategy of disruption and destabilization of radical organizations. COINTELPRO directed many of its most viscous attacks against the Black Liberation Movement, targeting political leaders for jailing and even assassination.

More than ten years ago a Congressional investigation reported many of these government sanctioned crimes against the Black liberation movement. Their report called COINTELPRO "a war against Black America." Geronimo Pratt is a prisoner of this war today. Geronimo stands firm in his commitment to Black people's struggle for human rights and independence in spite of 16 years of continual repression by the government and the CDC.

The JBAKC is supporting NAPO's campaign to free Geronimo. We urge all groups and individuals to contribute to this campaign by circulating the petition prepared by NAPO and gathering signatures demanding Geronimo's release. For copies of the petition and more information, write to the newspaper. ☐

The New Afrikan Peoples Organization (NAPO) has initiated a national petition campaign demanding immediate exoneration and release from prison of Geronimo Pratt, a former leader of the Black Panther Party. Geronimo Pratt has been in California prisons for 16 years, seven of them in solitary confinement. He is serving time for a murder he did not commit. Despite conclusive evidence proving his innocence — including statements of an FBI informant and the FBI's own surveillance files — Geronimo has been denied a new trial.

Geronimo has a hearing before the California Parole Board in April, 1987. As in the past, Geronimo is refusing to participate in the hearing. Because he is innocent, there is no issue of 'rehabilitation.'

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Afrikaner Resistance Movement

South Africa's Ku Klux Klan

In an on-going effort to provide information and analysis about events in Azania/South Africa, we present this article about the right-wing Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB).

The entire peace-loving world mourns the death of Samora Machel, President of Mozambique. President Kuanda of Zambia has stated that the frontline nations "hold South Africa directly responsible until they have proved the contrary." Evidence continues to mount that the racist Boers killed Machel and are preparing their Mozambiquen contras, the MNR, to invade Mozambique from Malawi.

In a victory for the Azanian people and the anti-apartheid and solidarity movements, we've also seen the US and other western countries pass limited sanctions banning bank loans and some trade. An important step forward, these sanctions are still far from a complete break. In fact, some corporations only sold their holdings to local subsidiaries, keeping all of their business ties intact.

Since our last issue, the racist South African government has declared another state of emergency and imposed press restrictions so severe the Foreign Correspondents Association has called them "the toughest anywhere in the world." What the South African regime is trying to cover up is the detention of over 20,000 Africans, many of them children, the torture of detainees, the banning of dozens of organizations, and the continued land seizures and evictions of Black families from their homes.

In addition to state terrorism, the last period has seen the rise of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB). We call them South Africa's Klan.

By Paul Stuart

The Afrikaner-Boer version of the KKK, the Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging, or Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) is currently riding high in South Africa following a series of successful power-plays with the Botha regime. The AWB, whose neo-Nazi policies are virtually identical to the 1948 charter of Botha's National Party, has achieved its recent success, ironically, by attacking Botha's administration.

The AWB is led by Eugene Terre Blanche, a former policeman (his name translates as "White Earth") who calls himself a "freedom fighter." With the intensity and charisma befitting a demagogue, Terre Blanche has galvanized the growing fears and apprehensions of South Africa's lower-income blue collar whites, and emerged as a dominant spokesman for the country's rising white backlash.

"I think the Afrikaners, especially the poor people, have the right to have their own country," he says. "Their own land. By that I mean the whole of the Transvaal, the Orange Free State, and the northern part of Natal."

On the map Terre Blanche's proposed "Boerland" amounts to over 40 percent of the arable land of South Africa. The rest, according to Terre Blanche, can be for Blacks and English-speaking whites. "Let them do their sharing there. But they cannot share power in my country."

Para-military in style and appearance, AWB members are organized into khaki-uniformed militias called "Blitzcommandos" and "Storm Falcons." These militias intentionally resemble Hitler's stormtroopers of the 1930s, from the swastika-like symbol of their flag to their use of the German Nazi salute.

Charging that Botha's recent so-called "reforms" of the apartheid system "are digging the white man's grave," Terre Blanche and his militias have been disrupting National Party meetings, speeches and

rallies throughout the country. From heckling National Party speakers in the Cape, to fighting with its supporters in the Orange Free state, the AWB has become a fixture at National Party events, militantly denouncing any hint of retreat from an outright white supremacist society in South Africa. Botha, for his part, has denounced the AWB, calling them a hindrance to peace in the country.

If the idea of two fellow nazis such as Terre Blanche and Botha being pitted against one another (in the arena of the international media) appears suspicious, it should! In attacking each other publicly, both men are profiting handsomely in the exchange: Terre Blanche and the AWB are gaining unprecedented visibility and prominence; and Botha, in a less obvious

the stormtrooping AWB arrived, as expected, several hundred strong, and stormed the meeting hall, Terre Blanche was seen entering the easily "conquered" building while escorted by the police!

"Yes, I'm for Terre Blanche," said one Pietersburg policeman at the scene, "And 99.9 percent of the police is [sic] too."

In order to dramatize the conflict between Botha and Terre Blanche, however, it was necessary for the police to evict the AWB from the hall (after Terre Blanche's speech, of course); which they did with lots of shouting, shoving, and even some tear-gas (no injuries) — while the whole ruckus was being filmed for news services at home and abroad. Meanwhile at a nearby closed-door press conference, Pik Botha declared that the clash was



Leader of the AWB, Eugene Terre Blanche with his followers.

though more important result, seeks to emerge with his National Party appearing as the stable high-ground of moderation between white extremists and Black revolutionaries. In the past few months these mutually beneficial maneuvers have reached new heights, and were underscored by a pair of AWB-Botha "show-downs" in May, 1986, where, to no one's surprise, both sides won, again.

In choosing the city of Pietersburg for its May 22nd rally, the National Party was openly "challenging" the AWB. Located in the staunchly conservative Northern Transvaal, a Pietersburg rally could be counted on to draw out the AWB, and the Botha administration welcomed the confrontation. "We're going to throw down the gauntlet [against the AWB]" asserted an aide to National Party Foreign Minister Roelof ("Pik") Botha, who was scheduled to speak at the rally. While such tough talk served well to attract extensive media attention to the event, no attempt whatever was made to back it up. In fact, when

"encouraging," in that it would convey to the West his government's difficult position. The Government-run television in South Africa then followed suit by showing footage of the Pietersburg disruption immediately after screening rare coverage of a riot in a Black township, with the intended effect of demonstrating to the nation's whites the difficulty of holding the middle ground — and thus the need to proceed slowly (very slowly!) with any more "reforms" of the apartheid system.

Although Terre Blanche and the AWB appear to be functioning primarily in helping the Botha regime appear as "moderate," their capacity for terrorism should not be discounted. In its fifteen year history the AWB has been responsible for numerous acts of violence against people opposing apartheid, including an assault on a university professor in 1978.

One AWB member has been convicted of beating a Black man to death, and in 1983 police found an AWB cache of arms and explosives buried on Terre Blanche's

brother's farm. Eight AWB members, including Terre Blanche were arrested for illegal possession of weapons. Although any ANC or PAC member found with a stash of machine guns would likely end up on the gallows, Terre Blanche, and the others, received a suspended sentence.

That the AWB has not been directly implicated in any recent murders of Black people is understandable in that direct military terror in South Africa is carried out by the government on a regular basis. However there is no reason to believe that the AWB has not or will not participate in government-led racist attacks or initiate their own.

PAC (Pan Africanist Congress of Azania) leaders point out that as the Azanian resistance has grown, wealthy and professional South Africans are fleeing the country, settling in Australia, New Zealand and the U.S., taking their money and political savvy with them. The AWB has sought to fill that vacuum and provide leadership to lower income Afrikaners.

The Rise of the AWB

The recent success of the AWB, their rise from the underground to the forefront, was exemplified at a rally of the country's extreme right organizations near Pretoria on May 31st, Afrikaner Republic Day.

Following the Pietersburg disruption the previous week, the government had denied the AWB permission to participate in the Republic Day rally, but had been forced to give in after AWB threats of defiance had generated an atmosphere of near hysteria surrounding the event. Media coverage was intense and approximately 10,000 Afrikaners showed up for what promised to be nothing less than a major showdown over the future of whites in South Africa. What occurred, however, was more of an anointing of Terre Blanche as the new leader of the extreme right.

Bidding for the dramatic effect, Terre Blanche made his entrance only after the other leaders — Andries Treurnicht, of the Conservative Party and Jaap Marais of the Reconstituted National Party — had taken their seats on the podium. Escorted by his "storm-falcons," Terre Blanche received a thunderous ovation as he marched through the crowd and onto the stage. And when he rose to speak, the courteous applause which had followed the speeches of Treurnicht and Marais erupted again into a roar and swelled to a unison chant of "AWB, AWB." The rally and the extremist movement belonged to Terre Blanche as he extolled the "Divine mandate" of a "white fatherland" and pledged to continue the fight against any further "concessions" to Blacks.

How then will the acquisition of a viable political base affect the AWB? Will they seek to cash in their recent applause for votes? Will they become more violent as their public support grows? In a country where fascists already have state power, the building of an organized movement that appears more staunchly right-wing than even the government can only serve the interests of apartheid and colonialism, whatever its stance toward the Botha regime.

Surely we can expect to see more of the mutually beneficial confrontations between Botha and the AWB. Meanwhile, the message of white supremacy and violence offered by the AWB will continue to fuel the mounting turmoil and hostilities in Azania. □